

Hafa Adai!

'Focus on investments, labor, government operations.' **PAGE 2**
Rota delegation bills appropriate more than \$2M. **PAGE 5**

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FY '17 budget bill goes to Torres

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The bicameral conference committee finally adopted its report and the budget bill after members agreed to give back nearly \$1 million of the appropriated funds for the Marianas Visitors Authority in Fiscal Year 2017. This was one of the issues that the House of Representatives and the Senate disagreed on that pushed the passing of the CNMI budget to a conference committee.

The House and Senate held separate emergency sessions last Saturday where the chair of their respective panels delivered a summary of the report. All 29 members of the CNMI Legislature—20 House and nine Senate members—unanimously passed House Bill 19-196.

The House, in an emergency session last week, voted 18-2 to reject the Senate amendments after the latter reduced by \$1.59 million MVA's funds and distributed it to other agencies like the Saipan Mayor's Office and the Division of Parks and Recreation.

The conferees, last week, adopted the committee report after finding a middle ground in key areas of the budget bill. The six-member panel summarized the report to 15 amendments that they discussed in three days of marathon talks.

They restored \$510,000 to the General Fund Deficit Reduction, while the remaining \$500,000 was used for a 10-percent matching fund for the Legislator to buy a generator, renovate its housing unit, and to acquire security cameras.

The conferees also decided to put back \$990,000 from MVA's funds and agreed to spread \$600,000 to the Department of Public Works (\$250,000 to redesign and reconstruct road in Hotel Street Western Garapan to ease parking congestion); Mayor of Saipan (\$200,000 for cleanup, beautification, and foreign student exchange programs); Division of Parks & Recreation (\$100,000 for cleanup, maintenance, and beautification of parks, tourist, and recreational sites); and Commonwealth Museum (\$50,000 for



JON PEREZ

The bicameral conference committee meets to discuss certain issues regarding the CNMI Fiscal Year 2017 budget last Friday at the House Speaker's conference room inside the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building in Capital Hill.

repair and renovation).

The committee also reduced the Rota Mayor's Office budget from \$470,000 to \$400,000, an allocation for the payment to employees of the First Senatorial District pursuant to Public Law 7-31 or the Salary Adjustment Act; \$45,056 is for the 30 percent Retirement bonus of five employees; \$30,000 for the procurement of a van that will be used by the Rota

See BUDGET on Page 4

Oral cancer: 3rd cause of death in CNMI

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Cancer registrar Joanne Ogo reported that oral cancer is the third leading type of cancer in the CNMI. She made the report last Friday during Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' signing of House Bill 19-65 or an act that prohibits the sale, offer, or giving of areca nut (betel nut) to minors.

Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) is the author of HB 19-65, which becomes Public Law 19-66.

Ogo said breast cancer is the leading type of cancer in the CNMI

followed by cervical cancer. Colon and lung cancers were third and fourth. She added that there have been 57 cases of oral cancer in the CNMI from 2007 to 2014 where 39 have already died.

» Minors now prohibited from obtaining betel nut

"The history of the majority of the cases started chewing when they were 12 years old. They have been experimenting using coffee filters, gum, and Vicks (vapor rub)," said Ogo, who were among one of the individuals who went out to do the survey when principal investigator Dr. Yvette C. Paulino started the study.

"They have a pattern of using vapor rub. They say that it gives

See ORAL on Page 4

ON POTHOLES ON ROADS CAUSED BY WATER LEAK REPAIRS

Board: CUC shouldn't be at mercy of contractors

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Adelina Roberto and vice chair Eric San Nicolas said CUC should not be at the mercy of contractors as they and other directors expressed

concern with the potholes that CUC is causing on the roads in villages on Saipan due to its water leak-repair program.

"The thing about it is we cannot be at their mercy because the revenues that we received come from the ratepayers. We have to wisely use that

money," said Roberto during CUC's board meeting on Thursday.

San Nicolas said CUC does not cater to the contractors.

"We should be catering to the service that we provide to the people, right?" San Nicolas said.

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INSIDE



LOCAL

World-famous fashion brand Calvin Klein opened at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan last Saturday.

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NATION

Newly released police video of a black man's fatal shooting isn't settling questions about whether the man threatened police with a gun before he was felled by a black officer.

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LIFE & STYLE

The pop group Backstreet Boys confirmed reports Friday they will begin a concert residency next year at Planet Hollywood.

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Local

CHAMBER'S 8-POINT ECONOMIC DEV'T ROADMAP:

'Focus on investments, labor, government operations'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Last of four parts

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be working closely with the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Legislature as the Commonwealth's economy continues to improve after suffering more than five years of inactivity.

"The general membership, through its board of directors, pledges to work throughout the coming years to make our economy better for every resident of the Commonwealth," said in the eight-point Economic Development Roadmap that they presented both to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog last week.

"We will gladly accept the

suggestions of the CNMI administration and Legislature on how to best meet to begin work that has been outlined," added the report.

Torres said they have always welcomed suggestions from different sectors of the community. "It is always important to listen to all stakeholders of our community and share ideas on how to improve our Commonwealth.

"The presentation offered some worthwhile proposals that we are interested in pursuing, and contained projects that we are already in the process of seeing through," Torres added.

Investment

The Chamber said Saipan's economy is changing with the entry of electronic and live

See SOLAR on Page 4



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.



Marianas Busan Seminar

To increase awareness of the Northern Marianas in Korea, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) held the 2016 Marianas Busan Seminar "Paradise for Everyone" on Aug. 24. Busan is the second largest city in Korea.



Over 80 partners representing travel agencies, airlines, and hotel partners joined the event, held at Park Hyatt Busan. Presentations were made by the MVA and industry partners. Participating partners were: Asiana Airlines Busan, Aqua Resort Club, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Saipan Kensington Hotel, Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort, Pacific Island Club, T Galleria Saipan, and World Resort.



The event concluded with a raffle draw for two roundtrip tickets on Asiana Airlines to Saipan, as well as other prizes. So far this fiscal year, the Northern Mariana Islands have received 181,035 visitors from Korea, a 7 percent increase compared to the same period last year.



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Rota cop in domestic violence case says he was not provided Miranda rights

George Ayuyu Barcinas, a Rota police officer facing domestic violence charges, moves the Superior Court to suppress any statement he made to law enforcement officers allegedly without providing him his constitutional rights.

In a motion to suppress statements, Barcinas, through counsel assistant public defender Tillman Clark, requested the court to find his first statement be found inadmissible at trial as a violation of Miranda.

Miranda refers to the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark ruling that concludes that statements made by a suspect in police custody are generally inadmissible if the suspect has not been made aware of his or her Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights.

Clark also asked the court to hold as inadmissible Barcinas' second statement to the police as a post-warning violation of Miranda and Seibert.

Seibert refers to a U.S. Supreme Court decision that held that Miranda warnings given mid-interrogation, after the defendant gave an unwarned confession, were ineffective, and thus a repeated confession made post-Miranda warning, after questioning resumed following a short break, was inadmissible at trial.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set the hearing of the motion to suppress for Oct. 7 at 8:30am at the Rota Courthouse.

Camacho reset the bench trial currently scheduled on Oct. 7 at 9am, to Oct. 7 at 1:30pm at the Rota Courthouse.

Clark stated that on June 5, 2015, at 5:25pm, police detective Shaw Taisacan responded to the residence of Barcinas.

Clark said Taisacan said Barcinas flagged down the vehicle, and he was immediately, in the words of Taisacan, placed under arrest and transported to Department of Public Safety Central for processing by a police officer.

On that same day at 5:43pm, Clark said, while under arrest in police custody, Police Officer Noel M. Calvo interviewed Barcinas.

In that interview, the defense lawyer said, Barcinas gave a full and detailed description of his version of the events that occurred that day.

Clark said Barcinas was never Mirandized or otherwise informed of his constitutional rights before giving his statement.

At 9pm that same day, Clark said, Barcinas had his rights read to him by Detective Taisacan and was interviewed again.

Clark said the second interview was equally descriptive and detailed as Barcinas' earlier interview and was substantially identical.

Clark said it is not reasonable to find that the Miranda warnings Barcinas received could function effectively.

Clark said at the time which Barcinas received them he had already told the officers a fully chronological narrative of his history and there was nothing more to add.

Clark said the only purpose of a second interview was to do so after having read him his rights and thus, in the minds of the officers involved, getting a legally admissible statement.

The Office of the Attorney General alleged that on June 5, 2015 on Rota, Barcinas pinned his wife to the ground and

placed her in a headlock. He allegedly grabbed his wife's keys from her car's ignition against her will preventing her from leaving his property.

Barcinas also allegedly used physical force to struggle with and prevent the victim from calling law enforcement after she informed him of her intention to do so.

The government charged the 35-year-old Barcinas with assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a domestic violence report. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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BOARD

From Page 1

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang recently reportedly expressed alarm over CUC's failure to repair several potholes in villages caused by the utilities agency's leak-repair program.

At the board meeting, CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho disclosed that as far as CUC's road repairs project is concerned, they have a \$250,000 contract that they are waiting to be completed.

Camacho said the project is being advertised right now to identify contractors.

Camacho is referring to

CUC's invitation for bids from qualified companies for their island wide restoration for waterline repairs on Saipan.

The work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill, and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines.

Camacho said once a company is awarded with the project, there will be a lot of repairs on the roads caused by these road cuts.

Camacho asked how much CUC spent last year on road cuts, to which a CUC staff replied it's near \$200,000.

The acting executive director said some of the road cuts remain there for quite some

time because the contractor, Hawaiian Rock, will not patch a small amount but wait for a number of cuts.

Camacho said it is his understanding that there are times that there is just a need for a small amount to patch and that it's not economically sound for Hawaiian Rock to process their big equipment for a small amount of asphalt.

San Nicolas pointed out that CUC should not be catering to the contractor.

San Nicolas said if CUC needs to take the \$200,000 costs in order to buy its own equipment to do the patching, he is willing to support that.

"We cannot be at the mercy of

the contractor," he said, adding that there is a need to maximize the service that benefits CUC, residents, and its customers.

Camacho said he does not speak for Hawaiian Rock, but that he would imagine they would be more than happy to cater for each and every road cut.

However, Camacho said, the cost is going to be extremely high because there are going to have a minimum amount that they have to make in the box machine.

Roberto said it is economical for the company, but not economical for CUC.

"When there is a minimum of 10 [cuts] that's when they

patch?" Roberto asked.

Roberto said they cannot continue to give contractors that it's always their benefit and not the benefit of CUC because they're giving them, guaranteeing them \$250,000.

"When you prepare the package, Hawaiian Rock is aware of what is there that they gonna patch, right?" the chairman asked.

San Nicolas said the companies provide the service at CUC's scope of work, and not at theirs.

"That (potholes) creates inconvenience to customers, that creates problems to the customers," San Nicolas said.

Board treasurer Joe Torres

said the fact that it's expensive CUC still needs to repair the roads.

San Nicolas said they need to stop this one-sided contract. "That's why we have the Mobil issue, that's why we have the Docomo issue," San Nicolas said.

Board member Ignacio Perez said in order to cut the discussion, Camacho should provide the board the scope of work that they have in this contact now so the board can amend it.

"Let us see what do you have or what you have negotiated with. And let us know what that is so we can approve or act with another one with an amendment," Perez said.

BUDGET

From Page 1

Liaison and Medical Referral on Saipan; and \$20,000 for the repair and renovation of the leaching field/septic tank and water reservoir at the Marianas Medical Referral Center on Saipan.

In the Second Senatorial District, they transferred \$25,000 each from the Tinian Mayor's Office to two other agencies. The Tinian Department of Public Safety will be getting \$25,000 for its "War on Ice" campaign and another \$25,000 to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Tinian for the procurement of one vehicle.

Some of the issues in the appropriations were either struck out, deleted, or re-allocated.

HB 19-196, SS1 goes to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres where his office would review it together with their Legal Counsel, the Attorney General, and the Office of Management and Budget,

and Finance.

Comments

Torres said the Legislators know how important the FY 2017 budget is. "I thank the Legislators for acting on this budget. Obviously, they know how important it is for them, and for us to sign it to prevent a partial government shutdown."

"This is just in time, I will have a few days to review it and address my concerns with our legal counsel and the Attorney General, and would also invite OMB and Finance to hash it out before signing it."

House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) acknowledged everyone's work adding that putting together the budget bill is a difficult task. "I acknowledged the hard work given by all the conferees. We all know that putting numbers together has always been a challenge."

Vice speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), who acted as the House chair in the conference committee, thanked all members of the

House panel from their Legislative Bureau's staff to the Legal Counsel.

"This was not an easy talk but through our overall efforts, we managed to work on it. Some parts were very contentious but through the open mindedness and attitude of the conference committee, we came together and worked it out to come up with a reasonable product," said Deleon Guerrero.

He also thanked Vicky Villagomez, the Governor's Office's special assistant for OMB. "Under normal conference committee it is really just three members each that were allowed to participate. We allowed her to be present because of the short time we had left. We wanted to make sure the governor is aware of the changes that could facilitate in signing this bill into law."

Deleon Guerrero headed the House panel in the absence of Ways and Means committee chair Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), who went on a compassionate leave following the untimely passing of his moth-

er. Rep. Antonio Benavente (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan) were the other members of the House panel.

Sablan, who attended the House session last Saturday, thanked his colleagues for their understanding and appreciated the work of Deleon Guerrero in being the acting chair. "I know the conference committee is a difficult park of the budget deliberations and I had to ask the House speaker and vice speaker to be allowed to be away from conference work because of an untimely personal matter."

"But before I went on leave, I sat down with the vice speaker to discuss the foundation and framework on how the House should proceed with the conference committee. This process is difficult but they managed to iron out the differences and took a few days to do this."

Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan) also thanked all members of the conference committee for their hard work

in coming up with a compromised budget. "Although there were a lot of bargaining issues, all members managed to work together. We have an obligation to pass the budget and we cannot let the people, whom that we serve, down. We must make sure to avoid a shutdown."

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), which headed the Senate panel being the Fiscal Affairs Committee chair, said they understood the consequence if they failed to come up with a solution on the issues that were contested.

"We got our ducks in order. We know that we can come up with an agreement, a compromised bill. We understood its consequences, so we put our minds together in making sure that we have a product that is reasonable to all."

"Things were approved accordingly. All civil service employees will be getting their 5-percent increase based on their salaries. That is actually that is consistently put forth on everyone's efforts."

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-

Rota), who is also the Fiscal Affairs Committee vice chair, said that although not all of those on the Senate's version of the budget proposal were adopted by the conferees still those that remained were of crucial importance.

"For example, increasing allocation for our medical referral patients' stipends, funding for our inter-island medical referral patients lodging accommodations, and additional FTEs for our medical referral programs," said Santos.

"In addition, the first and second senatorial districts budget allocation were increased including providing a provision where the mayors of the respective islands can re-program funds from the utilities allocation for any other purposes. Such provision, would allow the mayors to use the funds based on the municipality or departments' needs or to augment those that were not adopted by the bicameral conferees but of vital importance to the islands."

ORAL

From Page 1

them the kick since they already passed the whole tobacco with lime. Their brain wants something that is stronger. The coffee filter absorbs the saliva better, the gum is for flavor, and the vapor rub is to get an extra kick in the betel nut," added Ogo.

Addressing the problem

Torres said the law would ad-

dress the problem of oral cancer in the CNMI. "We should not take things for granted. Sometimes we don't realize it until it hits and we lose someone we love. I know that we have thousands of trees, our youth could go and get their own, but at least this is one step closer to our goal and we can monitor the selling in stores."

Deleon Guerrero, the author of the bill, said the bill went to a lot of discussion before the challenges in implementing it

were finally addressed. "Some businesses may oppose it once the law is enforced but they have to have some requirements in order to have a license to sell it.

"I participated in forum and it touched me that our own people are dying. That prompted me to do something about it. The [Commonwealth Cancer Association] can have its awareness and prevention campaign in our schools especially in the elementary level so they could

understand its impact," added Deleon Guerrero.

CCA president Bo Palacios said that they teamed up with the Community Guidance Center and a number of dental clinics in helping them diagnose people that became part of the study. "We adopted a multi-facet approach in terms of oral cancer."

"We go to different schools and events to inform the community about oral cancer. We have several dozens of people

who were afflicted with oral cancer through chewing. We also have a lot of advocates, one of them is Mami Ikeda and she speaks on affects of not only on the victim but also to the families."

Enforcement

The Department of Commerce will be changing the meaning of its ABTC acronym, Alcohol Betel Nut Tobacco Control, according to its director Dave Maratita.

"We are in full support of this bill. Of course there were a lot of deliberation but we can look forward in the enforcement in terms of preventing minors to having their hands on it," said Maratita.

"We also ask the help of the community and various partners to help us in strictly enforcing the law. We have a draft of the license agreement for the sale of betel nut. We also have a hotline number, just call 285-1821 to report any violation."

FOCUS

From Page 2

gambling. The likes of Club C and Club 88 had widened the gaming industry aside from the remaining poker and pachinko arcades. Imperial Pacific International is currently operating a live training facility as they await the opening of its multibillion-dollar Grand Mariana Casino & Ho-

tel Resort early next year.

Other investors have been coming in the form support businesses like new hotels and even brand name restaurants. "With these new endeavors comes new opportunity, both for business owners and employees. Wages will need to increase and are expected to match stateside levels."

The Chamber said that the tax base needs to sustain and provide essential public ser-

vices. They are also encouraging eligible investors to apply to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services EB-5 investor program under the Consolidated Natural Resources Act; tax investment opportunities to further attract other investors, investment opportunities via tax credits; tax credits for low-income housing and other developments; follow through on free trade zone and qualifying

certificate amendments and implementation; development for business collateral; comprehensive one-start business development center; and economic diversity.

The Chamber is also suggesting that the island would benefit from the "MICE component" or meetings, incentives, conventions, and exhibits. Saipan, however, currently has no facility big enough to host such events.

"Guam has [the University of Guam] Fieldhouse and the Paseo Stadium for large gatherings, which stimulate business and improve the economy. [The] government might consider subsidizing with the private sector to provide some initial spaces," said the Chamber report.

A space that could hold 500 to 800 or even up to 1,000 is needed and it should be an indoor facility with most of the off-island visitors would have

a harder time acclimatizing on Saipan's tropical type of weather.

The government should also maintain a healthy relationship with the current and future air carriers that would support business efforts to further increase their traffic to and from the island.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Rota Legislative Delegation passed four House Local Bills that appropriate more than \$2 million and would fund various projects and programs in the CNMI's southernmost island. The total amount is \$2,113,263.14 with \$2 million specifically allotted to the First Senatorial District under Public Law 18-56.

HLB 19-70 earmarked \$2 million for the Municipality of Rota with more than 50 percent or \$1,550,000 to pay the 25 percent Retirement cut restoration of all retirees and surviving beneficiaries that were either still residing in Rota or outside of the island.

The Rota Municipal government employees will be getting \$250,000 with Mayor Efraim Atalig as the expenditure authority; \$101,050 is for subsistence allowances of residents undergoing hemodialysis and terminally ill patients; \$43,950 for the Rota Mayor's Office's operations.

The Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation was allotted \$10,000, while the Dr. Rita Inos Junior-Senior High School and Sinapalo Elementary School will be getting \$7,000 each for the payment of textbooks, sports equipment, and minor facility repairs.

SEAS and Asian-West Development Inc. or the former Paradise Hotel will be receiving \$5,000 as partial payment for the use of their facilities, while Dr. Francois Claasens and Dr. James Toskas will be given \$5,000 apiece as partial payment for services rendered to the Municipality of Rota.

The Rota Casino Gaming Commission will have an additional \$5,000 for its funds with the Eskuelan Francisco De Borja and Grace Christian Academy allocated \$3,000 each for non-religious textbooks, sports equipment, and minor facility repairs.

HLB 19-61 appropriated \$67,328 from the accrued Bond Interest Income that was identified by the Commonwealth Development Authority. The money will be funding the renovation and other repairs of the Rota Guest House located in Navy Hill.

HLB 19-72 is for Rota's gaming and tourism enhancement and will get \$25,935.14 that was allotted under PL 18-30. The amount is divided to: \$15,935.14 for Bisita Luta activities and \$5,000 each for the 2nd Coconut Festival and the annual Fishing Derby.

HLB 19-71 appropriates \$20,000 that was collected from local license fees of poker and pachinko slot machines. It would supplement the expenses for the fall 2016 semester of Rota students that

Rota delegation bills appropriate more than \$2M

are receiving assistance from the Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation.

Rep. Glenn S. Maratita

(R-Rota) introduced all local bills and was passed by the

delegation in their last week's session. All four local bills are

now awaiting the signature of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.



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Kia Soul LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$247.56 or \$114.26 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$17,824.32.



ERWIN ENCINARES
The inside of the Calvin Klein store at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.



The façade of Calvin Klein at Paseo de Marianas. The luxury brand store opened last Saturday night.

September is Infant Awareness Month

The death of a baby before his or her first birthday is called Infant Mortality.

The loss of a baby remains a sad reality for many parents and takes a serious toll on the health and well-being of families.

Most of these babies die as a result of:

- 🍷 Birth defects
- 🍷 Maternal complications of pregnancy
- 🍷 Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)
- 🍷 Injuries (e.g., suffocation)

Fortunately, there are steps many of us can do that may help reduce Infant Mortality. Steps include:

- 🍷 Taking folic acid
- 🍷 Getting regular physical activity
- 🍷 Getting early and ongoing prenatal care starting in the first trimester
- 🍷 Adopting safe sleeping practices for your baby such as putting him or her to sleep on his or her back and alone in a CRIB or PACK-N-PLAY.

For more information on Infant Mortality Rates for the CNMI or steps you can take to help prevent Infant Mortality, please call the Maternal & Child Health Bureau at 236-8715



This ad has been brought to you by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau – H.O.M.E. Visiting Program funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Calvin Klein opens at Paseo de Marianas

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

World-famous fashion brand Calvin Klein opened at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan last Saturday. The store is operated by franchise owner Gemkell Group, a luxury retail group from Guam.

Gemkell general manager Beth Chandler said although Calvin Klein is a brand that connotes expensive premium quality clothing, its prices are what bridges the gap of luxury and low-end products. “[The prices of Calvin Klein] is really in between. In the retail world, we call it mestige, and it’s in the middle, where somebody saves up for a pair of jeans because they want quality jeans, while people who are used to buying ultra premium jeans will trade down, so it’s kind of like in between the high-end luxury and the lower-end,” she said.

Chandler also claimed that in order to fully tap into the potential buying power of tourists, CK would also fix their eyes on the locals.

“The locals are the ones interacting with everybody, so even though we know that the Koreans and the Chinese are our biggest spenders, people who interact with

them all day long, which are the locals, are the ones who are going to influence them to come into our store,” said Chandler. “So the happier we make [the locals], the happier they’re going to be talking about us and spreading the word about Calvin Klein.”

One of the main goals of opening shop here on Saipan is to make people aware that there is a place on Saipan that sells legitimate premium items.

“We want to be more of a destination, people know who we are and where we are, and they come to us and they seek us out. We’ve done a lot of promoting, both through ads on the newspaper and the radio, we’re doing mass marketing and some international markets, but its about knowing when you come here, you can trust that this is authentic. When you buy Calvin Klein [here] it’s not spelled wrong, it’s real Calvin Klein; this comes from the designing studios, this is legitimate Calvin Klein.”

Calvin Klein Inc. is a fashion design company that designs and sells various types of clothing, such as coats, dresses, sportswear, blazers, lingerie, underwear, jeans, and accessories for both men and women.


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Federal probationer Quitugua tested positive for 'ice' use, again

Federal probationer Daniel M. Quitugua was tested again presumptive positive for the use of methamphetamine or "ice" last July 5, according to the U.S. Probation Office.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola disclosed on Friday that Quitugua admitted in writing that he had used "ice" earlier that morning when the drug test was conducted at the treatment vendor site.

In a petition for revocation filed in federal court, Arriola said Quitugua apologized for his actions and stated that he did not want to go to jail and that he will do his best to avoid

illegal drugs.

Arriola requested the court to issue a summons for Quitugua to appear at a hearing to show cause why his term of supervised release should not be revoked.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Friday granted the U.S. Probation's request and issued the summons for the defendant to appear in court.

Quitugua was convicted in federal court in 2005 for conspiracy to commit Hobbs Act robbery, and using and carrying a firearm during a crime of violence.

In April 2005, the federal court slapped Quitugua with a 120-month prison term followed by a five-year supervised release over an armed robbery at a poker establishment in 2004. Quitugua's supervised release began on Jan. 14, 2013.

According to court records, in April 2013, the U.S. Probation Office filed an informational report as a result of Quitugua's submission of diluted urine sample and for admission to "ice" use on March 6, 2013.

In April 2013, the court modified Quitugua's conditions to include a no alcohol use condition and to submit to

one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment.

In May 2013, defendant's conditions were modified again to include three months of home detention due to admission to "ice" use on April 18 and May 20, 2013.

In July 2013, the U.S. Probation requested to revoke the supervision of Quitugua after he admitted using "ice" on June 9, 2013.

In August 2013, the federal court extended defendant's home detention term with location monitoring for an additional 30 days.

In May 2014, the U.S. Pro-

bation filed another request to revoke defendant's probation after he was arrested on new local charges, admitted to "ice" use on May 14, 2014, and attempted to substitute his urine during a drug test.

In June 2014, defendant's supervised release was revoked and was sentenced to an imprisonment of 764 days of time served, followed by a 35-month supervised release.

Defendant's supervised release commenced on June 24, 2016, which is expected to expire on May 23, 2019.

In July 2014, Quitugua pleaded guilty to resisting arrest and was slapped by the Superior Court with a six-month prison term.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced him to six months in prison, but gave him credit for time served since May 23, 2014.

Police arrested Quitugua for

allegedly speeding a car and running away from police officers, leaving a bag that contained three illegal guns and bullets near Northern Marianas College on May 23, 2014.

Following the arrest, the U.S. Probation Office has sought the revocation of Quitugua's federal probation.

An indictment was then filed in federal court, charging Quitugua with one count of felon in possession of firearm in connection with his arrest near NMC.

According to the indictment, on May 23, 2014, Quitugua knowingly possessed one or more firearms and rounds of ammunition, specifically: one Sig Sauer Model P226 9mm pistol; one Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver; 90 rounds of .45 caliber ammunition; 50 rounds of .38 caliber ammunition; and 62 rounds of 9mm ammunition.

(Ferdie de la Torre)

OAG moves to revoke probation of former Corrections officer

The Office of the Attorney General has moved to revoke the probation of former Corrections officer Mariano Q. Falig Jr. for allegedly committing a violation of the terms and conditions of his probation in connection with his 2015 conviction in a domestic violence case.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds said the 38-year-old Falig failed to obey all CNMI laws in that he was arrested last June 8 for the charges of illegal possession of controlled substance and unlawful possession of ammunition.

According to Probation Officer Oscar C. Torres, defendant's probation will expire on July 13, 2018.

According to an amended information filed in the Superior Court, on June 7, 2016 on Saipan Falig unlawfully possessed methamphetamine or "ice" and a Glock .40 caliber magazine containing 15 rounds of Smith and Wesson ammunition.

son ammunition.

Falig signed a plea deal with the government. He pleaded guilty to the offenses of assault and criminal mischief.

In July 2015, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio slapped Falig with a one-year prison term for slashing the tire and scratching with a knife the vehicle of his then-pregnant girlfriend and threatening to kill her outside a bar in Garapan in November 2014.

Kim-Tenorio gave Falig 230 days of credit for time served.

Upon release from prison, the defendant was placed on supervised probation for three years.

According to the plea agreement, on Nov. 26, 2014 on Saipan, Falig threatened the victim and damaged her vehicle with a knife.

In March 2014, a federal court jury acquitted Falig of the charges that he distributed "ice" on Saipan. (Ferdie de la Torre)

AMP launches 2016 Every Kid in a Park program

American Memorial Park encourages all fourth graders to visit the park this year as part of the Every Kid in a Park program.

The Every Kid in a Park program is an Administration-wide effort between the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Army, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The program continues each year with the then-cur-

rent group of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public land and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation's shared natural and cultural heritage.

For more information, please visit www.everykidinapark.gov and follow the program on Twitter @everykidinapark, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. (PR)

Building Hope, Building Communities....

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT?

The DCCA Division of Youth Services is seeking interested qualified individuals to become part of the CNMI DYS Foster Parent pool for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Foster home placements are needed for children under DYS custody needing long-term placement in a family setting. This may include Kinship Placement (family) placement under approved conditions.

Once eligibility requirements are met and there is a need for placement, a contract will be executed between the DCCA-DYS and the foster parent (s). Contracts run for 6 months and can be shortened or extended, if necessary.

Foster Parent roles include, but not limited to:

- ♥ Providing the child (ren) with the nurture, care, clothing, food, supervision and training appropriate to his/her age, gender and particular needs.
- ♥ Adhering to all the regulations presented in the Division's policy and procedures manual regarding Foster/Kinship Care.
- ♥ Working with DYS in providing for the child's care and planning for the child's future.
- ♥ Encouraging the child in his/her relationship with natural parents and assisting in appropriate visiting arrangements.
- ♥ Taking part in available training activities that DYS provides for Foster/Kinship parents.
- ♥ Adhering to all Child Care Licensing requirements to license the foster home.
- ♥ Ensuring confidentiality on all information learned about the child and his/her family.

Making a difference and touching the lives of others through foster parenting is truly a lifetime reward...



Certified Foster Parents are provided with a \$250.00 stipend per child, per month to assist with living expenses.

For more information regarding Foster Parent eligibility requirements, please contact 664-2550/2565/2592 or visit DYS website at www.dys.gov.mp



NMC joins Pearson VUE network to offer accessible and secure certification testing

Northern Marianas College has signed an agreement with Pearson VUE, the computer-based testing (CBT) business of Pearson, to test candidates pursuing key industry certifications from leading IT programs, such as Cisco, CompTIA, EMC, HP, LPI, Oracle, and VMware.

Pearson VUE believes testing and certification is at the heart of the learning experience, and Northern Marianas College will play its part by offering accessible and secure testing to candidates.

Pearson VUE's advanced system administers exams on behalf of hundreds of businesses, boards and organizations around the globe through the world's largest most secure test center network. The sys-

tem enables candidates to register and reschedule their tests online or through a Pearson VUE call center.

"We're very excited about our new partnership with Pearson VUE," said Jonathan Liwag, NMC director of Information Technology. "The Pearson VUE Testing System gives us unparalleled control and flexibility over our ability to manage our business our way and the agreement means we can easily offer same-day testing, or bring testing to our customers' locations. We're pleased to partner with a company whose industry status, technology and passion for excellence will allow us to provide even greater service for our customers."

The list of certification tests

available from test sponsors through the Pearson VUE system is continually growing. Test results are quickly transmitted back, ensuring the candidate's certification status is promptly updated.

Ray Murray, vice president-Business Development, Pearson VUE said, "We are proud to welcome Northern Marianas College to the rapidly growing global network of Pearson VUE Authorized Test Centers. Together, we are providing even more candidates with the opportunity to obtain meaningful certifications and advance their careers."

Pearson VUE delivery of exams has continued to increase rapidly in recent years, with the company delivering 10 million exams in 2011. (PR)

Blas pleased with signing of Bill 326

GUAM—Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. last Friday issued the following statement on the Gov. Eddie Calvo's signing of Bill No. 326-33.

"I want to thank the governor for his action in making this bill a public law. Since the



Blas Jr.

very beginning, the focus of this legislation was always the victims. It gives them a voice and the ability to seek justice for the harm that was done. I want to thank the vic-

to come forward and share their stories and the church groups that actively pushed for this measure in order to give relief to the victims of child sex abuse." For more information, please contact the Office of Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr., at 475-2527 or via email at frank.blasjr@gmail.com. (PR)



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Dr. Daniel Lamar, MD, ND, is the Medical Director at KCHC. In addition to providing primary care services, Dr. Lamar specializes in holistic medicine providing our community with natural methods of healing.



Douglas Metz, PA-C is a certified physician assistant coming all the way from Africa. Mr. Metz provides services in pediatric, adult, geriatric medicine, and has expertise in infectious diseases.



Bertha Camacho, NP is a certified nurse practitioner and is the Center's main women's health provider. Ms. Camacho provides services such as well women checks, prenatal and postpartum care, gynecological problem management, physical exams, and STD screening and treatment.



Sylvia Taggart, PA-C is also a certified physician assistant at KCHC providing all primary care services as well as exercise and nutrition education. Ms. Taggart successfully piloted our Hinemlu Huebes program which was an eight week long program providing free weekly comprehensive wellness classes at KCHC.

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KCHC accepts Medicaid and Medicare, AETNA, NetCare, STAYWELL, and Calvo's insurance. A sliding fee discount is available to all, depending on family size and income. KCHC serves all patients regardless of inability to pay.

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Supervisor of Learning Development 2

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Specialist of Relationship Marketing 15
Executive of Relationship Marketing 15

COUNT ROOM

Director of Count Operation & Project 1

CAGE

Vice President of Cage Operations 1
Vice President of VIP Gaming Cage 1
Vice President of Mass Gaming Cage 1
Assistant Cage Manager 2
Senior Cage Shift Manager 2
Senior Cage Supervisor 5
Senior Cage Cashier 20

VIP CLIENT SERVICES

Executive VIP Host 2
Guest Relations Officer 5

PREMIUM MASS

Executive Host - Premium Mass 3
Senior Executive Host - Premium Mass 3

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Public Relation Manager 1
Marketing Assistant Manager 1
Events and Marketing Coordinator 2

CONSTRUCTION

Senior Project Manager 3
Administrative Specialist 1

HOTEL OPERATIONS

Assistant Vice President - Hospitality 5
Housekeeping Attendant 5
Public Area Attendant 5
Senior Technician 5

HOSPITALITY

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Hospitality Driver II 20
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FINANCE – CASINO

Senior Gaming Auditor 6

F&B OPERATIONS

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F&B – CASINO

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Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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A remarkable enzyme

By RUSS MASON

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Russ Mason, M.S., wrote for a medical journal, "Alternative & Complementary Therapies," for eight years. He interviewed dozens of doctors who had much to share about unconventional treatment options. These included Tibetan medicine, Chinese medicine, botanicals, and treating stroke victims with hyperbaric oxygen.



Funny how one thing leads to another. I was on YouTube, looking for information about how to clean clogged arteries, and I stumbled upon a little-known enzyme, serrapeptase. You have probably never heard of it, but its work in the human body is miraculous.

Serrapeptase is an enzyme, found in the digestive tracts of silkworms. (How do they even think to look in a silkworm's digestive system?)

From WebMD:

"Serrapeptase is a chemical taken from the silkworm. It is a commonly used drug (Takeda Chemical Industries) in Japan and Europe. In the U.S., serrapeptase is classified as a dietary supplement.

"Serrapeptase is used for painful conditions including back pain, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, carpal tunnel syndrome, migraine headache, and tension headache.

"It is also used for conditions that involve pain and swelling (inflammation) including sinusitis, laryngitis, sore throat, ear infections, swelling after surgery, swelling of a vein with the formation of a blood clot (thrombophlebitis), and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) including ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

"Some people use serrapeptase for heart disease and 'hardening of the arteries' (atherosclerosis).

"Women use it for non-cancerous lumpy breasts (fibrocystic breast disease), and nursing mothers use it for breast pain caused by too much milk (breast engorgement).

"Other uses include treatment of diabetes, leg ulcers, asthma, and pus accumulation (empyema).

"Serrapeptase helps the body break down protein. This might help decrease inflammation and mucus."

It also alleviates the symptoms of emphysema. I heard a doctor say that she had a 93-year-old patient who was on oxygen most of the day.

After taking serrapeptase, he gradually recovered. It took two years, but this man, at the age of 95 was walking on a treadmill and saying that he was looking for a girlfriend.

This little enzyme is a powerhouse of abilities—it does everything good, and there are few side effects. If a woman has blocked fallopian tubes, serrapeptase will fix them. If you have clogged coronary arteries, serrapeptase will unclog them. This is just fantastic.

The following is taken from <http://www.serrapeptase.info>.
Serrapeptase—The Miracle Enzyme A 2nd Gift from
See ENZYME on Next Page



Stepping into golden age

We reach the pinnacle of our career then turn around and reluctantly begin the slow walk down into the entrance of golden age. With a sense of serenity we take occasional nostalgic walks to memory lane to revisit people and places we've seen over the years.

I recall graceful faces, hands I have pressed, meals we've shared, prayers we've said together in rosaries and novenas, music we've sung in island harmony, and friends who've sailed home into the sunset. It's one sentimental walk as we deal with yet another final query: how much time is left?

Yes, the untiring personal discipline seeking answers to unanswered prayers, dreams that have disappeared at dawn, and trusted friends who failed us. Nevertheless, we kept dreaming and praying, daily. It's all part and whole of a discipline we've learned from our parents. Call it persistence!

It seems a timeless journey crowned by the wisdom of our time-honored traditions. Yes, the latter evaporates like morning dew at sunrise but returns the next day as though a reminder that there's room for renewal. And we begin anew with eyes set on brighter tomorrows. Call it hope!

I've heard the familiar voices of cousins and friends a long time ago. Yes the happy times we had at a school playground, family farm, and public beaches. We certainly miss youthful formative years where we learned the essence of strong spiritual anchor. It served as our north star through the years.

Through it all familial unity has kept us a closely-knit clan. We've toiled the soil, fished alongside master fishermen, mud surf (suberudai) the school playground on rainy days, head to church on Christmas Eve with rags on our back and settled for coffee and boiled taro in the old kitchen. I call it breakfast!

I miss the meaningful family conversations and laughter of yester-years that cemented the bond of love amongst us. We are also most grateful for the untiring efforts and wise counsel of our saintly parents who stood by our side through thick and thin.

I also miss the once strong sense of communal sharing where, poor as we were, we looked out for each other's wellbeing. It gave me the opportunity to see issues through the prism of our people's eyes. I lived it too! It's the foundational barometer discerning sentiments and conditions in the islands. I never miss a beat and have learned from it throughout the years.

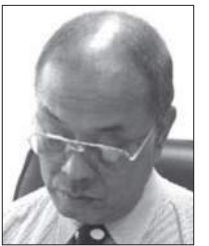
The veneration of the Baby Jesus on Christmas Day in the villages is a religious tradition here. We welcome the King of Kings into our homes even if only twice a year. Each family member humbly kneels down and kisses His feet. The exchange of heart-felt felicitations with the accompanying choir is sheer joy.

Up until the earl '60s, communal sharing means joining other

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



families net-fishing, corn picking and husking, tapioca grating, picking young and ripe coconuts for food and oil, helping our elderly in the slaughter or butcher of farm animals, etc. These occasional gatherings involve the entire neighborhood pitching-in, including talking stories when chores are done.

Master fishermen do what I call the "slam" form of fishing—hit the water hard to corral fish to the net—to help a family in difficult times or village fiestas. This too is basically history!

Indeed, some of these once customary things we do as neighbors have also disappeared over time. It disappeared with the migration of friends to new village homesteads in Kagman, Dandan, Tanapag, As Matuis, and China Town. The old fabric is gone. I don't see it in the new villages. We've also become more individualistic where we resolutely mind our own business. We close our doors so we don't see our neighbors anymore.

The customary help we give our elderly in their golden years has slowly changed into hiring outside hands to handle them while we're at work. Understood. But it remains filial obligation. We must return to honoring them with patience and generosity for their roles and timeless contributions.

Thought I'd share a brief and somewhat melancholic account of our recent past in our trials and tribulations. We're now at the crossroads of modernity or the massive shift being imposed by the digital age. We find tougher sealanes to navigate up ahead. Tell us your version some 70 years from now. Si Iku!

Dangerous lull

The test of leadership is how quickly it seizes command and control of a disastrous situation that pummeled the islands like Supertyphoon Soudelor.

Immediate instructions would have helped guide the multitude about shelters, where to go for specific help, etc. Of course, it was very disappointing! It must have been driven wildly by the lack of timely solutions or call it inexperience!

See STEPPING on Next Page

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

They didn’t listen!

Every adult has experienced that “if I or they had only listened moment” and I’m sure we have all made a mistake because we didn’t listen—it’s part of life’s lessons we are supposed to learn. Well, I have literally experience a litany of times when the powers-that-be in the CNMI didn’t listen to some of the sound and even proven advice that I have offered over the past two decades. I have had students who didn’t listen but the people with the hardest heads are adults. In fact, ever since the beginning of philosophy and the practice of education there have always been those who just refuse to listen to good advice. On many occasions in the history of the world these poor listeners have even represented the majority of a society. Just think about how the majority allowed the existence of things such as slavery, women suffrage & inequality, dictatorships, the superior race ideology and a host of other illogical ideologies that challenged and defied philosophy and logic driven by the facts based on the simple principles of right, wrong, freedoms, equality and what is best for all in a society. The challenges of our democracy majority rule is that it is the best we can do as humans who will never all agree.

I have tried over the years to reach the minds and hearts of people while sharing the wisdom of philosophy, logic, history, facts, and just plain old common sense but they didn’t listen—citizens and our leaders. I even tried making predictions that all came true over time and still they didn’t listen! I already know one of the biggest reasons why they didn’t listen is because I am not local which is really being prejudice and ignorant to think that a nonlocal can’t contribute or lead in our society. There is also the “Ambrose Politics” as some politicians like to pretend they are interested and try to use me and some even avoid me, which proves they are not honorable. There are even those at PSS and on the Hill who will act like they never read my letters and would rather see our children and the entire CNMI suffer before allowing me

ENZYME

From Page 10

Silkworms

“The natural chelation anti-inflammatory serrapeptase has had wide clinical use—spanning over 25 years throughout Europe and Asia—as a viable alternative to salicylates, ibuprofen and the more potent NSAIDs. Unlike these drugs, Serrapeptase is a naturally occurring, physiological agent with no inhibitory effects on prostaglandins and is devoid of gastrointestinal side effects.

“SerraHome-3Serrapeptase digests inflammations, scars (non-living tissue), blood clots, cysts, and arterial plaque and inflammation in all forms. The late German physician, Dr. Hans Nieper, used Serrapeptase to treat arterial blockage in his coronary patients. Serrapeptase protects against stroke and is reportedly more effective and quicker than EDTA Chelation treatments in removing arterial plaque. He also reports that Serrapeptase dissolves blood clots and causes varicose veins to shrink or diminish. Dr. Nieper told of a woman scheduled for hand amputation and a man scheduled for bypass surgery who both recovered quickly without surgery after treatment with Serrapeptase.

Serrapeptase can reverse autoimmune disease

“What are Autoimmune Diseases? An autoimmune disorder is a condition where the immune system mistakenly attacks and then destroys the healthy body tissue. There are a large group of autoimmune diseases and they manifest in different ways. They come from a virus, or bacteria but in the end it is basically caused by a low level infection residing in the body.

“Serrapeptase provides relief for (MS), lupus, ME, chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, juvenile arthritis, Crohns disease, lyme disease, myasthenia gravis, psoriasis, human papilloma virus, Hashimoto’s; as well as relief for bilateral pneumonia, and bartonellosis.

Alzheimer’s disease

“Alzheimer’s disease (AD) is the most common form of dementia. It is thought to be caused by atrophy to parts of the brain which damages the structure of it and how it works. There is no precisely known cause as to why it happens, but along with certain risk factors such as age, family history, down syndrome and even whiplash, it’s possible that cardiovascular disease can increase the risk of Alzheimer’s.”

According to the web site, many people with Alzheimer’s dis-

or my idea as a black man to make a major contribution to the CNMI—the true pathetic prejudice politics of some on the Hill. I am just thankful there are a handful of honorable people on the Hill and every voter should put them to the test like I have done over the years so you will know who to vote for as political die-hearts are also another group of Ambrose haters. Then there is the largest group of people in the CNMI who actually never read the paper nor watch the news so I can only assume ignorance is their barrier to being fully informed on issues, which is why the informed citizens have a duty to say it loud and spread the news and truth.

I can’t reach everyone from the newspaper and I really don’t care about those who don’t want to listen because of their prejudice or their politics as time will always be on my side—genuine truths can never be completely obliterated just a delayed reality. I even wrote a series of articles on the many I told you so predictions. which I want to remind readers of just to show you how much they didn’t listen. There are many more cases of they didn’t listen but I will share just a few to make my point:

1. I started in the ’90s promoting the research that proved PSS needed to be more aggressive and change its approach to teaching and preserving the culture—now PSS is desperate just to even hire a bilingual teacher with no efforts to preserve the entire cultures.

2. As a board member I tried to help teachers and PSS with the No Child Left Be-hind (NCLB) Act and now PSS can’t find enough teachers and is even hiring teachers they fired for not passing PRAXIS under NCLB Act.

3. In 2001, I conducted research in Mexico for the U.S. Department of Education, which revealed the World Trade Agreement termination would cause our garment industry to be pulling up stakes by Dec. 31 of 2005. I warned the people and our leaders that we must do something to replace the exit of the garment industry but again they didn’t listen. FYI readers, we are only now 10 years later starting to come out of the economic downturn that was created by the exit of the garment industry, which began in Jan of 2006.

4. I warned about the loss of the Japanese tourist market back in 2008 and more recently with the sale of the Marianas Resort that I alone protested publicly. We allowed the sale of

ease have been greatly helped by taking serrapeptase.

Serrapeptase has anti-aging properties

“Aging is a normal function of the body as we advance in years, but premature aging is not. Our view of aging is different than what could be our reality if we were to apply a naturally healthy lifestyle.

“To prevent early aging and illnesses associated with aging, we need to prevent fibrous tissue buildup, thickening of the blood, chronic inflammation, and weakening of the immune system. These problems can be prevented with a daily dose of the enzyme serrapeptase.”

The following scientific information about serrapeptase is taken from: <http://www.raysahelian.com/serrapeptase.html>

Potential side effects

“A review of the medical literature indicates rare cases of pneumonitis or allergic skin reactions. As with any supplement or medicine, rare cases of other side effects are possible. Over the past several years we have had individuals who have mentioned side effects, some were minor aches and pains after taking it daily for a few weeks and some more serious reactions. We suggest limiting to one tablet or capsule a day and taking at least two or three days off each week until we find out whether these cases were just coincidence or true side effects from serrapeptase.”

The following is from: www.physicianformula.com

“A look at published studies reveals a rare cases of pneumonitis and one case of a dermatitis skin disease reported in 1989. In the past few years of selling serrapeptase products, and after thousands of bottles sold, we have only had 2 individuals report serrapeptase side effects—muscle aches. We are not sure if these were related to serrapeptase or a coincidence. Both individuals were taking more than 40,000 units serrapeptase dosage a day. Limit your serrapeptase dosage to one tablet a day and take 2 days off each week just to be on the safe side and have medical approval before use. Otherwise, we have not had any other reports or found any published research regarding other serrapeptase side effects.”

Serrapeptase is definitely worth looking into, and there are some good videos on YouTube about this enzyme. However, do your homework because there are so many variables with this product.

the last Japanese hotel to a Chinese investor virtually starting to put the last nails in the coffin of our Japanese tourists market.

5. I even warned that the CNMI people would lose \$80-\$100 million by allowing BSI to purchase the Marianas Resort so the people would have two leased properties developed instead of one but again no one listened and the people got screwed royally.

6. I fought against those who didn’t want a ferry at Sugar Dock but look at Sugar Dock now and the fact that we don’t have a ferry at all now.

7. Speaking of ferries, I tried to help the CNMI with acquiring a ferry that was virtually free and it even came with \$2 million in subsidies for training people, maintenance, and fuel consumption over the first two years. It should be obvious now it was a stupid mistake not to take advantage of this gift from the U.S. Navy.

8. I warned that the Legislature under Gov. Fital’s request and with the help of Retirement board chair Sixto were figuratively killing the Retirement Fund but again no one listened or took the advice I was giving to stop what I called “A Robbery at the Fund” in my letter to the editor. Retirees and those who claimed to represent retirees were some of the biggest political suckers among voters even attacking me a fellow retiree (how dumb can one be). Now the Fund is literally on its deathbed.

8. The feds and I both warned our leaders to increase wages and to stop bringing in so many alien workers back in the ’90s (10 to 15 years ago) as our leaders couldn’t have understood the totality of what they were doing. The feds and I warned that locals were being forced to migrate to the mainland depleting the local workforce and that the sovereignty of the CNMI would slowly be transferred to the Filipino community over time because they significantly outnumber locals—a true reality that may not be reversible because trends haven’t changed and they don’t listen! But we must still commend and thank the Filipino community for all their contributions to the CNMI, regardless.

We need as many locals as we can get and the CW issue is priority one but there is still no real plan to make sure all locals are gainfully employed and there is no plan to repatriate the locals from the mainland just pleas for CWs which is sad and ill-responsible, so will they listen and create a real plan as “the failure to plan is a plan for failure” for true. I am also pushing for legalization now, which has proven to be a social and economic solution to challenges in America—but will they listen. So I must ask does Ambrose care more about the local people than our leaders, which is a question I hope readers will also ask our leaders.

The lack of listening due to prejudice, ignorance or politics has clearly resulted in failures as I have been right on the overwhelming majority of the issues I have promoted and time has even proven I was right, just wrong about some of the politicians I tried to help. But my mother once told me “she was going to make something out of me whether I wanted her to or not,” so I will continue to try and help the people of the CNMI regardless if some don’t want me to or not. Most people who really know me know that I’m trying to do what is right, just and proper to make the CNMI a better place to live and work—it’s called citizenry because I love the CNMI. I don’t expect any thankyou’s but I hope it is clear that I was never the enemy, just a mainlander who wanted to help our children and the people and contribute to the CNMI by offering real solutions to the ailments of our society but they just didn’t listen.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

STEPPING






From Page 10

One quizzes emergency preparedness in the event the islands is hit by a major earthquake the strength of 6.0 on the Richter scale. Remember, a 5.0 temblor no longer allows you to stand up. You sit down where you are until the shaking is done. Move away from major structures and telephone poles too. Troubling given that north of the archipelago Japan goes through regular earthquake exercises monthly. Shouldn’t this be a concern too?

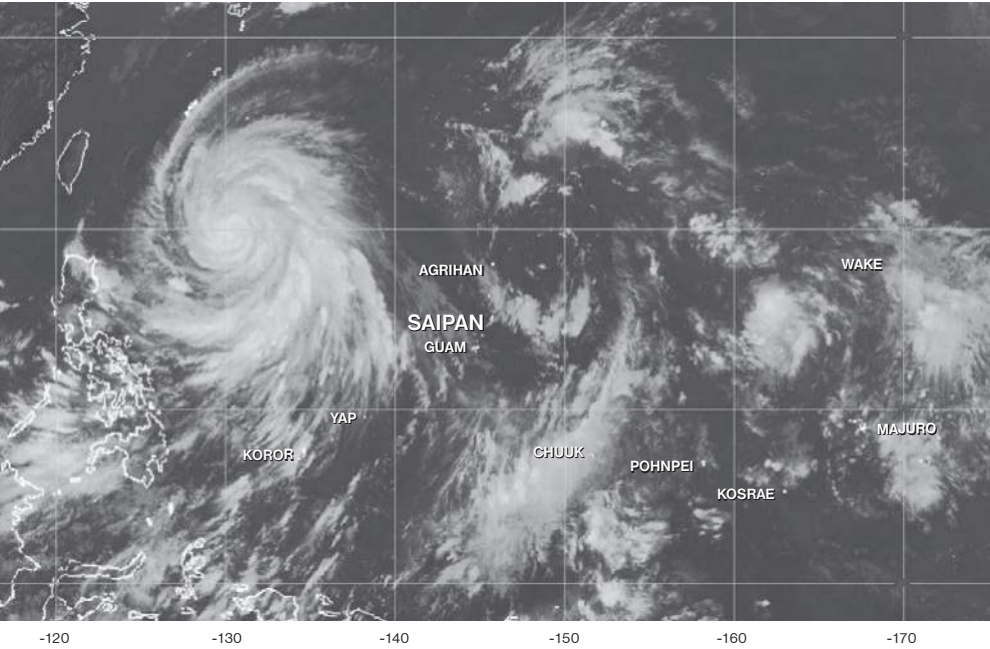
The NMI is a volcanic offshoot that has active underwater volcanoes nearby. We’ve seen how the Pagan eruption displaced its residents. We’ve seen how the skies turned pitch black when the Anatahan volcano erupted. Even chickens were jumping unto tree branches at 10am fooled it was sunset. Think about it. We’ve got volcanoes, tectonic plates and the Pacific Ring of Fire to contend with annually. Must prepare in the event the big one hits!

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:40 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak ridge of high pressure was located just to the west of the Marianas. Northeast winds will become east during the day. This will be temporary as a weak surface trough pushing in from the east will cause winds to become northeast tonight. This weak surface trough will generate isolated showers and thunderstorms today and tonight. Another surface trough could be found north of Pohnpei this morning. This trough will move westward and by Monday a circulation will form on it. Models agree on the circulation moving just north of Saipan the second half of the week. Northeast winds Monday and Tuesday will become Northwest Wednesday as the circulation enters the area. Still not certain on shower coverage with this feature, but feel that it will at least generate some clouds and thunderstorms. Added mostly cloudy skies and isolated thunderstorms to the forecast for Tuesday night through Friday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Morning clouds	81 / 88 °F
Palau	Partly sunny	80 / 87 °F
Yap	Heavy rain	77 / 87 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	77 / 88 °F
Kosrae	Afternoon clouds	83 / 88 °F
Majuro	Partly cloudy	84 / 88 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Partly sunny	54 / 63 °F
Beijing	Mostly cloudy	65 / 77 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	77 / 89 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	73 / 83 °F
London	Afternoon clouds	53 / 65 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	70 / 94 °F
Manila	Cloudy	78 / 86 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	46 / 60 °F
Miami	Flash floods	77 / 88 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	54 / 70 °F
Osaka	Mostly cloudy	71 / 86 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	46 / 68 °F
Pusan	Mostly cloudy	69 / 77 °F
Rome	Sunny	53 / 77 °F
Salem	Sunny	53 / 87 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	56 / 83 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	62 / 83 °F
Tokyo	Partly sunny	72 / 84 °F
Washington, DC	Cloudy	55 / 72 °F



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
2:56 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.62 Feet
10:12 AM	LOW TIDE	0.04 Feet
5:17 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.78 Feet
11:04 PM	LOW TIDE	0.95 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	1:50 AM	2:51 PM
Tuesday	2:44 AM	3:38 PM
Wednesday	3:36 AM	4:21 PM
Thursday	4:27 AM	5:03 PM
Friday	5:16 AM	5:42 PM

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily			
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat						
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily						
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily						
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily						
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily						
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily						
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily						
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily						
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily						
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily						
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily						
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Ronald Reagan Strike Group sailors to volunteer in community

ASAN, Guam—The Ronald Reagan Strike Group consisting of USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76), USS *Chancellorsville* (CG 62), USS *Barry* (DDG 52), USS *Curtis Wilbur* (DDG 54), USS *Benfold* (DDG 65), and USS *McCampbell* (DDG 85), arrived in Guam for a port call Sept. 24.

While on island, hundreds of sailors will volunteer their time at schools and organizations as a way to give back to the island community:

SEPT. 25:

■ **Guam Animals in Need (GAIN)**—Sailors will help clean kennels and care for animals at the Yigo animal shelter from 9am to 1pm.

■ **Island Girl Power**—Sailors will assist with the beautification of nearby parks from 10am to 2pm.

SEPT. 26:

■ **Harry S. Truman Elementary School**—Sailors will speak to students about their careers and assist school staff with maintenance from 8:30am to 2pm.

■ **Agat Village Beautification Project**—Sailors will work alongside the Agat Mayor's Office staff to clear out a near-

by river from 9:30am to 2pm.

■ **Astumbo Elementary School**—Sailors will interact with students and discuss their careers from 10:30am to 12:10pm.

SEPT. 27:

■ **Juan M. Guerrero Elementary School**—Sailors will discuss their careers with students and interact with them from 8:30am to 1pm.

■ **Wettengel Elementary School**—Sailors will interact with students and discuss their careers from 9am to 2pm.

■ **Marcial Sablan Elementary School**—Sailors will interact with students and discuss their careers from 9am to 2pm.

■ **Dededo Beautification Project**—Sailors will assist the mayor's staff with tree trimming and cleanup from 9:30am to 1pm.

■ **Asan-Maina Beautification Project**—Sailors will assist the mayor's staff with village road cleanups and painting of community buildings from 9:30am to 1pm.

■ **Merizo Beautification/Ge'us River Cleanup**—In partnership with the Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans Coral Watershed Program and the Department of Agriculture,

Sailors will assist staff with bamboo removal in the Ge'us River from 10am to 3pm.

SEPT. 28

■ **B.P. Carbullido Elementary School and Chief Brodie Elementary School**—Sailors will interact and work with students from 9am to 1pm.

■ **C.L. Taitano Elementary School**—Sailors will speak to fifth graders about their careers from 12:30pm to 1pm.

Ronald Reagan was commissioned in July 2003 and is the ninth Nimitz-class nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. She is named after the 40th U.S. president and carries the motto "Peace Through Strength," a recurrent theme during Reagan's presidency which continues to resonate in our current maritime environment. There are approximately 5,000 service members on board.

Ronald Reagan, Chancellorsville, Barry, Curtis Wilbur, Benfold, and McCampbell are part of Carrier Strike Group 5, which is the Navy's only forward-deployed strike group located in Yokosuka, Japan and operates throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Labor



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This ad is paid for by the USDOL, OSHA Administration

Flag state inspectors acquire knowledge on ship safety standards

SUVA, Fiji—Fourteen Flag State Inspectors from the Pacific region are now better equipped to carry out their important role in enforcing safety standards and requirements when conducting regular inspections on-board vessels.

This follows a regional training initiative conducted by the Pacific Community (SPC) in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) which began in Suva, Fiji, on 19 September 2016.

The two-week training is intended to provide technical officers of the maritime administration with knowledge and skills to carry out inspections of ships in order to verify ship conditions and equipment; and to ensure compliance with suitable international and regional ship safety standards.

"Despite the fact that the ships plying in local sea areas, used for inter-island services or in general on non-international voyages fall outside of IMO's remit and primary focus, safety of passenger ships have always been a matter of paramount importance to IMO," Head of Asia and Pacific Section, IMO's Technical Cooperation Division, Bekir Sitki Ustaoglu, said.

"This regional training is

considered as a follow through activity after the 2015 Manila conference on safety of ships carrying passengers on non-international voyages," Ustaoglu added.

Domestic shipping is fundamental for inter-island connectivity and is the main means of access to and from outer islands, supporting the socio-economic needs of communities.

With around 2000 registered domestic vessels operating in the region, the international and domestic laws notably place the primary responsibility on States to ensure the ships that fly its flag are seaworthy, the master and crew are competent and qualified, and that law and order prevail on-board each vessel.

One of the most prominent obligations is for the State to ensure safety standards are applied on-board the ship at all times so that passengers and crew can travel or work safely.

Appointed Flag State Inspectors from countries are responsible for implementation of these obligations on behalf of their respective States.

"This regional training has been designed to provide Flag State Inspectors from the region with methods to conduct and report their inspections on

a harmonised technical and legal basis," SPC's Deputy Director Transport, Thierry Nervale, said.

"This will reinforce their capacity and behaviour as ship safety specialists and Flag State authority representatives," Nervale added.

The first week of the training covered tutorial sessions on relevant international and regional instruments, while the second week will focus on practical exercises with participants conducting on-board inspections, developing survey reports and entering information in a database created by them.

The outcome of the training will improve knowledge of participants on the relevant international instruments related to ship safety and pollution prevention, therefore, they should be able to implement Flag State obligations by enforcing domestic ship safety regulations, and to implement systematic methods and good practices when conducting flag state inspections.

The training ends on Wednesday, Sept. 28 2016, one day before the World Maritime Day, where a few of the participants will have the opportunity to join the celebrations prepared by SPC's Economic Development Division. (PR)

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FOR DIVERT ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES,
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Divert Activities and Exercises, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as published in the Federal Register on 23 September 2016 EDT/24 September 2016 ChST. The Final EIS is available for download on the project website address listed below. Hard copies can be reviewed at the locations listed below.

The Proposed Action is to improve an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. Under this action, the USAF proposes to construct facilities and infrastructure at an existing airport or airports to support a combination of cargo, tanker, and similar aircraft and associated support personnel for divert operations, periodic exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

As stated in the Final EIS, the USAF preferred alternative is Alternative 2- Modified Tinian Alternative. In accordance with federal regulations that guide the EIS process (40 CFR 1500-1508), the USAF will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) on whether and how to implement the Proposed Action no sooner than 30 days after release of the Final EIS. A Notice of Availability for the ROD will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

The Final EIS takes into account public input and comments received on the Revised Draft EIS, which the USAF released for public review in October 2015. It analyzes potential environmental impacts of the modified alternatives which were presented in the Revised Draft EIS. The modified alternatives meet USAF operational selection standards while incorporating input received during the 2012 Draft EIS public review period.

In accordance with NEPA and the USAF regulations for implementing NEPA in 32 CFR Part 989, the USAF prepared the Final EIS and is making it available to the public. Electronic files can be downloaded from the project website address listed below. In addition, printed copies of the Final EIS will be available for review at the following locations:

Saipan: Saipan Office of the Mayor; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

Tinian: Tinian Office of the Mayor; Tinian Public Library

Documents maybe be downloaded or viewed online at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com.



CNMI celebrates Cultural Heritage Month's Family Fun Day

Over the weekend the Commonwealth descended and gathered at the Carolinian Utt to celebrate Family Fun Day, one of the highlights that the Cultural Heritage Month steering committee and Best Sunshine International, Ltd., through its Corporate Social Responsibility department, organized. *(PR)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A child enjoys the “Kids Corner” one of the carnival games set up by the BSI-CSR team.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility assists with the staging of the friendly canoe race.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Determined young kids try to challenge themselves at the grease pole climbing competition to win the \$200 grand prize.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Participating in one of the games at the Cultural Heritage Month Family Fun Day.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, his son Tristan, BSI-CSR executive director Geri Dela Cruz, and Carolinian Affairs Office executive assistant John Tagabuel participate and join the community in support of the successful Family Fun Day event.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Both young and old enjoy the pig chase.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Participants get down to join the coconut grinding, one of the exciting obstacle races set up by BSI-CSR staff.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Best Sunshine CSR's Jowel Naputi demonstrates the obstacle course for the participants.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Two teams go up against each other during the tug-o-war game at the BSI-coordinated Family Fun Day event for Cultural Heritage Month.

USCG Reserve Unit Pacific Command holds change of command ceremony

HONOLULU, Hawaii—Capt. Andrew Grenier relieved Capt. William Noftsker as the Coast Guard Reserve Unit Pacific Command commanding officer during a change of command ceremony at Base Honolulu, Friday.

Grenier most recently served as the Coast Guard advisor to Coastal River Group One (CRG-1), Navy Expeditionary Combat Command, in San Diego.

Previously he served at eight other units, including tours aboard the USCGC *Resolute* (WMEC-620), Coast Guard

South San Vicente to have water service interruption

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in South San Vicente will experience a temporary water service interruption on Monday, Sept. 26, 2016, from 9am to 12pm, as AIC Marianas, Inc. CUC's contractor, installs a new valve on the existing pipe near Sailing Drive in preparation for placing the new main on Sailing Drive into service.

CUC and its contractor will be working hard to return water service to its customers in the affected areas as soon as possible

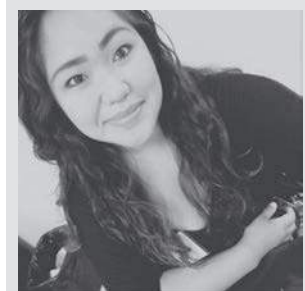
Areas affected are Dandan Road from the traffic light south toward the Dandan baseball field, Kuntan Huda Drive, Sailing Drive, Sun Rise Place, Bay View Place, Fishing Place, Walking Place, and Adios Place.

This project is part of the Sailing Drive 8-inch Waterline Extension Project and is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

CUC apologizes for any inconvenience resulting from this water service interruption.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). **(PR)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to a wonderful sister, auntie, godmother. May your special day be filled with lots of love and happiness. We love you Neng! Always, BanZinGals.

Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific and Coast Guard Headquarters, MSO/Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach, Coast Guard 11th District and Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Transportation Command Scott Air Force Base. In addition Grenier served as the Situation Unit Leader in New Orleans during Deepwater Horizon in 2010 and oversaw the CRG-

1 deployment to South Korea for force protection alongside Port Security Unit 309 in 2015.

Grenier's military awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, two Coast Guard Commendation medals, a three Commandant's Letter of Commendations with operational distinguishing device, six Unit commen-

ations, the Marine Safety Insignia, and various other unit and special operations awards.

He graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree in naval architecture and marine engineering. He also holds a Master of Science degree in fire protection engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He is a licensed fire protection engi-

neer and in his civilian career manages the design and engineering department of Walt Disney Parks and Resorts.

Coast Guard Reserve Unit Pacific Command supports the Coast Guard piece of U.S. Pacific Command's missions taking them to all corners of the Pacific and supports approximately 380,000 U.S. military and civilian personnel assigned to the USPA-COM area of responsibility dedicated to protecting our mutual security interests.

Capt. Peter Conley, Se-


nior Reserve Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area Command, presided over the ceremony.

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition and formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of a command to confirm to the men and women of the unit that the authority of command is maintained. The ceremony is a transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another. **(PR)**




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Capt. William Noftsker conducts a uniform inspection of Coast Guard Reserve Unit Pacific Command crewmembers during a change of command ceremony at Coast Guard Base Honolulu, Sept. 23, 2016. The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition, which formally transfers responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.


This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email - robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.


GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLÁN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131




PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") **Board of Directors' Operations Committee** will meet on **Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 11:30 a.m.**, at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building.

AGENDA*


- I. **Preliminary Matters**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
- II. **Public Comments****
- III. **Executive Session*****
(Consultation with Legal Counsel on legal matters pertaining to Operations)
- IV. **Adjournment**

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda maybe modified during the meeting.
 ** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
 *** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") **Board of Directors' Personnel Committee** will meet on **Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.**, at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building.

AGENDA*

- I. **Preliminary Matters**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
- II. **Public Comments****
- III. **Executive Session*****
 - A. Personnel Matters
- IV. **Adjournment**

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda maybe modified during the meeting.
 ** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
 *** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Cruz bill to recognize strangulation as standalone crime

HAGATÑA, Guam—Recognizing that victims of domestic violence who experience strangulation as part of their abuse are 800 percent more likely to die at the hands of their attacker, vice speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz has introduced Bill No. 373-33 (COR) to make strangulation a third degree felony under Guam law.

The vice speaker, who is presently attending the 2016 Domestic Violence Conference hosted by the Pacific Judicial Council, recently participated in a discussion led by the vice president of the National Institute of Crime Prevention, Rodney Reder. During Reder's presentation, Cruz learned that non-fatal strangulation, though a strong indicator of increased homicide, is

often ignored in domestic violence cases.

"I was shocked to learn that, in spite of the staggering statistics, there is currently no specific statutory provision on strangulation under Guam law," said Cruz, who introduced the measure this morning. "If our laws don't recognize strangulation as a separate criminal offense, how can we expect our police officers and first responders to?"

Under local law, choking—the internal obstruction of the airway—is considered physical abuse. However, Cruz notes that, while strangulation and choking are similar, they are not statutorily the same. As

a result, Cruz's measure adds language to specifically define strangulation as "knowingly or intentionally impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood by applying pressure to the throat or neck or by blocking the nose or mouth."

Under Bill No. 373-33 (COR), any person who commits strangulation may face up to five years' imprisonment.

Moreover, Cruz's measure updates Guam's family violence statutes by adding strangulation as an act of violence against family or household members, ensuring that the form of domestic violence is given the serious treatment its statistics demand.



Cruz

According to the National Family Justice Center Alliance, nearly 40 percent of victims report loss of consciousness within seconds of strangulation. Though visible evidence of injury is not common, strangulation often leaves devastating consequences, such as internal bleeding, artery damage, amnesia, loss of memory, and the risk of blood clots in the brain.

"Thirty-eight states across the country have recognized that 20th century laws must be updated to address 21st century evidence. That is what this bill does," said Cruz. "If you are a victim of domestic violence, if your partner or spouse has strangled you in the past, please reach out for help. Your life is in danger, and I intro-

duced Bill No. 373 to recognize that fact."

Absent the passage of Bill No. 373-33 (COR), acts of strangulation will continue

be treated as a violation of Guam's family violence and assault laws, carrying no additional penalty or consequence. (PR)

Ronald Reagan Strike Group arrives in Guam

APRA HARBOR, Guam—Elements of the USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76) Carrier Strike Group arrived in port last Saturday in Apra Harbor, U.S. Naval Base Guam, for a goodwill port visit after participating in the biennial joint maritime exercise Valiant Shield 2016.

Six additional ships of the strike group pulled into port Saturday as well, including: the

Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS *Chancellorsville* (CG 62) and the Arleigh Burke class guided-missile destroyers USS *Barry* (DDG 52), USS *Benfold* (DDG 65), USS *Curtis Wilbur* (DDG 54), USS *McCampbell* (DDG 85), and USS *Stethem* (DDG 63).

Pulling into Guam will provide opportunities for sailors to take advantage of what Guam has to offer and be able

to participate in community relations (COMREL) projects and activities in the next few days. COMREL projects are an important part of building and strengthening relationships with allies and partners.

Approximately 7,000 sailors make up the strike group. With the call sign "Freedom," the U.S. Navy's only forward-deployed aircraft carrier and flagship of Carrier Strike

Group Five and Battle Force 7th Fleet, USS *Ronald Reagan* provides a combat-ready force which protects and defends the collective maritime interests of the U.S. and its allies and partners in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

For more news from USS *Ronald Reagan* visit <http://www.reagan.navy.mil/> or <https://www.facebook.com/ussronaldreagan/>. (PR)



ERWIN ENCINARES

The flight deck of the USS *Ronald Reagan* is chockfull of military aircraft. The local media was given the opportunity to see how a U.S. Navy super carrier operates during a tour last week.

Navy, Coast Guard to conduct training at W-517

ASAN, Guam (Sept. 23, 2016)—The Navy and Coast Guard will conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) on Sept 27 and 28 from noon to 6pm.

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial

pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the date and times indicated.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of lati-

tude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest

in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)

DOI finalizes pathway to reestablish govt-to-govt relationship with Native Hawaiian community

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of the Interior announced a final rule to create a pathway for reestablishing a formal government-to-government relationship with the Native Hawaiian community. The final rule sets out an administrative procedure and criteria that the U.S. Secretary of the Interior would use if the Native Hawaiian community forms a unified government that then seeks a formal government-to-government relationship with the United States.

"This final rule provides the Native Hawaiian community with the opportunity to exercise self-determination by reestablishing a formal government-to-government relationship with the United States," said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. "Throughout this two-year rulemaking process, thousands of voices from the Native Hawaiian community and the public testified passionately about the proposal. Today is a major step forward in the reconciliation process between Native Hawaiians and the United States that began over 20 years ago. We are proud to announce this final rule that respects and supports self-governance for Native Hawaiians, one of our nation's largest indigenous communities."

The final rule builds on more than 150 federal statutes that Congress enacted over the last century to recognize and implement the special political and trust relationship between the United States and the Native Hawaiian community. It also considered and addressed extensive public comments during the rule-making process, which included public meetings in Hawaii and the mainland United States.

Native Hawaiians have not had a formal unified government since the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893. In 1993,

Congress enacted the Apology Resolution which offered an apology to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the United States for its role in the overthrow and committed the Federal government to a process of reconciliation. As part of that reconciliation process, in 2000 the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice jointly issued a report identifying as its lead recommendation the need to foster self-determination for Native Hawaiians under Federal law.

"We heard from the Native Hawaiian community about the importance of this rule to preserving its culture and traditions," said Kristen Sarri, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget. "This historic rule provides an opportunity for a Native Hawaiian government to exercise its inherent powers of self-government, self-determination, and economic self-sufficiency. It recognizes the special political and trust relationship between the United States and the Native Hawaiian community and will help to more effectively implement the laws that Congress passed."

The decision to reorganize a Native Hawaiian government is one for the Native Hawaiian community—not the federal government—to make as an exercise of self-determination. If a formal government-to-government relationship is reestablished, it could provide the community with greater flexibility to preserve its distinct culture and traditions. It could also enhance their ability to affect its special status under Federal law by exercising powers of self-government over many issues directly impacting community members.

The final rule, along with Frequently Asked Questions and other supporting documents, is available for review at www.doi.gov/hawaiian.

Business

Study finds 20M would lose health coverage under Trump

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new study that examines some major health care proposals from the presidential candidates finds that Donald Trump would cause about 20 million to lose coverage while Hillary Clinton would provide coverage for an additional 9 million people.

The 2016 presidential campaign has brought voters to a crossroads on health care yet again. The U.S. uninsured rate stands at a historically low 8.6 percent, mainly because of President Barack Obama's health care law, which expanded government and private coverage. Yet it's uncertain if the nation's newest social program will survive the election.

Republican candidate

Trump would repeal "Obamacare" and replace it with a new tax deduction, insurance market changes, and a Medicaid overhaul. Democrat Clinton would increase financial assistance for people with private insurance and expand government coverage as well.

The two approaches would have starkly different results, according to the Commonwealth Fund study released Friday.

The analysis was carried out by the RAND Corporation, a global research organization that uses computer simulation to test the potential effects of health care proposals. Although the New York-based Commonwealth Fund is non-partisan, it generally supports the goals of increased cover-

age and access to health care.

Economist Sara Collins, who heads the Commonwealth Fund's work on coverage and access, said RAND basically found that Trump's replacement plan isn't robust enough to make up for the insurance losses from repealing the Affordable Care Act. "Certainly it doesn't fully offset the effects of repeal," Collins said.

One worrisome finding is that the number of uninsured people in fair or poor health could triple under Trump. It would rise from an estimated 2.1 million people under current laws to between 5.7 million and 7.1 million under Trump's approach, depending on which of his policy proposals was analyzed.

Global efforts against ivory traffickers still falling short

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Poaching syndicates shipped large amounts of African elephant ivory last year despite global calls to dismantle the trafficking networks that often collude with corrupt officials, conservationists said as an international wildlife conference opened Saturday in South Africa.

The illegal ivory trade "has remained fairly constant at unacceptably high levels" since 2010, and in 2015 there was a "continuing upward trend" in the seizure of larger shipments of more than 100 kilograms (220 pounds), according to a document released by organizers. The transfer of big amounts of ivory indicates the key role of organized crime in poaching, the document said.

The plight of elephants dominated the discussion on the first day of the 12-day Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, conference. Rhinos, sharks, pangolins, helmeted hornbills and other threatened species are also on the agenda at the meeting, which regulates trade in wild animals and plants with the aim of ensuring their survival.

Last held in Bangkok in 2013, this year's CITES conference ends Oct. 5. The U.N. group has 183 member countries and can recommend suspending trade in wildlife with countries that don't enforce its guidelines.

Wildlife trafficking is estimated to generate billions of

dollars a year globally. Interpol is among the delegations at the conference and will discuss crime, corruption and the illegal financial flows of poaching.

Many delegates at the conference in Johannesburg are likely to push to tighten the international ban on the ivory trade, as well as close domestic ivory markets. Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, however, favor the sale of their ivory stockpiles, saying the money can be funneled back into conservation operations.

The world's main ivory consumer, China, has said it plans to close its domestic ivory market. The United States has announced a near-total ban on the domestic sale of African elephant ivory.

UPS testing drones for use in its package delivery system

MARBLEHEAD, Mass. (AP)—One of the world's largest package delivery companies is stepping up efforts to integrate drones into its system.

UPS has partnered with robot-maker CyPhy Works to test the use of drones to make commercial deliveries to remote or difficult-to-access locations.

The companies began testing the drones on Thursday, when they launched one from the seaside town of Marblehead. The drone flew on a programmed route for 3 miles over the Atlantic Ocean to deliver an inhaler at Children's Island.

The successful landing was greeted by jubilant shouts from CyPhy Works and UPS employees on the island to witness the test.

"I thought it was fantastic," said John Doderio, UPS vice president for industrial

engineering.

CyPhy Works founder Helen Greiner, who previously co-founded robot-maker iRobot, said the drone tests with UPS allow her company to gather engineering and cost information and then work with UPS to look at where drones can add the most value to UPS' extensive network.

Still, the robot-maker doesn't see drones replacing delivery trucks, bikes, buggies or gondolas anytime soon.

"Drones aren't going to take the place of all delivery, but there are places where you have inaccessible location, an emergency situation where the infrastructure is down, you want or need the package quickly—these are the areas where drones will be the best way to get a package to a location," Greiner said.

It's not all clear skies for

drones, though.

Newly revised federal aviation regulations don't permit commercial drones to fly over people not involved in their operations and require them to remain within line of sight of their operators at all times, effectively rendering commercial deliveries impossible. But those restrictions aren't keeping drone-makers and their partners from racing to develop technology suitable for commercial deliveries while they work with regulators to tweak existing rules.

United Parcel Service Inc., based in Atlanta, isn't the only company testing drones. Wal-Mart is testing drones it says will help it manage its warehouse inventory more efficiently, and Amazon.com is testing them for home delivery.

Nation

Charlotte police free partial shooting video, doubts remain

CHARLOTTE, N.C.

(AP)—Newly released police video of a black man's fatal shooting, sought by protesters for days, isn't settling questions about whether the man threatened police with a gun before he was felled by a black officer.

The dashboard camera Newly released police video of a black man's fatal shooting, which protesters had demanded for days, isn't settling questions about whether the man threatened police with a gun before he was felled by a black officer in one of North Carolina's biggest cities.

Police said Keith Lamont Scott had a gun, though residents have said he was unarmed. It's not apparent in the video if he's holding anything shortly before he was shot. The dramatic video released by Charlotte police shows officers with guns drawn surrounding the man just before the shooting.



In this Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016 file photo, protesters block I-277 during a third night of unrest following Tuesday's police fatal shooting of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, N.C.

In the dashboard camera video released Saturday night, Scott could be seen slowly backing away from his SUV with his hands down, and it's not apparent if he's holding anything. Four shots are heard in quick succession, and he crumples to the ground mortally wounded.

After the police vehicle dashboard camera and police body-cam videos were released Saturday, a fifth day of protests against the Scott's

fatal shooting was largely peaceful. Police blocked off downtown streets late into the night as they had throughout the day, allowing demonstrators to take over roadways without confrontations with vehicles.

Police also released photos on Saturday of what they said was a loaded handgun found at the scene, adding it bore Scott's DNA and fingerprints. They also said Scott had marijuana.

Suspect in Washington shooting 'zombie-like' when arrested

BURLINGTON, Wash.

(AP)—The 20-year-old suspect in the deadly Washington state mall shooting said nothing and appeared "zombie-like" when he was arrested by authorities nearly 24 hours into an intense manhunt, authorities said.

Island County Sheriff's Lt. Mike Hawley said he spotted Arcan Cetin from a patrol car Saturday evening in Oak Harbor, Washington, and immediately recognized him as the suspect who killed five people at the Cascade Mall in nearby Burlington.

Hawley said at a news conference they had received in-

formation that Cetin, of Oak Harbor, was in the area. Cetin, who immigrated to the U.S. from Turkey, is a legal permanent resident who has been living in Oak Harbor, authorities said. He had been arrested once before in the county for assault, Hawley said.

"I literally hit my brakes, did a quick turn, I jumped out," Hawley said. "We both jumped out with our guns, and he just froze."

Cetin was unarmed and was carrying a satchel with a computer in it.

"He was kind of zombie-like," Hawley said.

The suspect's arrest capped

a frantic search following the slayings of five people the day before.

The first 911 call came in just before 7 p.m. on a busy Friday at the Cascade Mall: A man with a rifle was shooting at people in the Macy's department store.

By the time police arrived moments later, the carnage at the Macy's makeup counter was complete. Four people were dead, and the shooter was gone, last seen walking toward Interstate 5. The fifth victim, a man, died in the early morning hours Saturday as police finished sweeping the 434,000-square-foot building.

ACROSS THE NATION

Baltimore Police: 3 gunmen shoot, wound 8 in attack

BALTIMORE (AP)—Three gunmen shot and wounded eight people including a 3-year-old girl on an east Baltimore street Saturday night, police said, adding the suspects fled and the victims were all expected to survive. The shooting erupted outside some row-houses about 8:30 p.m. after the three armed men converged on the group from different points, Baltimore Police Commissioner Kevin Davis said at a news conference. Davis, who went to the scene, said the shooting was a premeditated act of retaliation

in response to a Labor Day weekend shooting in which a man was fatally shot and two women were wounded, one of them pregnant. He did not immediately explain how investigators believed the shootings were linked. Davis said the victims could have recognized the gunmen but authorities haven't immediately been able to identify the suspects and were still searching for them hours afterward.

12 hurt when bus carrying Chinese teens crashes by Yosemite

OAKHURST, Calif. (AP)—The California Highway Patrol said 12 people were

injured when a tour bus carrying Chinese teens struck a tree near Yosemite National Park and went down an embankment. Sgt. Michael Schwab told KFSN-TV two of the injured were flown to the hospital with head trauma after Saturday's crash on State Route 41, south of Fish Camp. Schwab said 22 people were on the bus, most of them 12- to 15-year-old Chinese students and their adult chaperones who were heading to their hotel in Fresno after visiting the park. Schwab said the bus was operated by A Top Line Tours. A call to the Monterey Park-based company in Southern California has not been returned.

Asia

N. Koreans sold as brides in China want kids back

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—After fleeing North Korea to avoid extreme poverty and oppression, the young woman allowed a stranger to arrange a marriage for her with a rural Chinese farmer because she had nowhere to go. An even more painful decision came later.

She said severe abuse by her husband, including once being tied to a post, and the constant fear police would send her back to the North to face torture and prison convinced her that she needed to flee to South Korea. She decided she had to make the risky journey alone, leaving behind the young daughter she had with her Chinese husband.

"My heart has been torn apart," the 35-year-old said of the daughter she left in the northeastern Chinese town of Longjing nearly 10 years ago, when the girl was 4. "I heard from my Chinese husband that my daughter cried herself to sleep and searched for me until she turned 8."

She asked to be identified only by her surname, Kim, out of fear that publicity about her past would destroy her life in the South, where she has remarried and has two other children.

Kim has lost touch with her daughter and is afraid to return to China, but neither she nor other defectors in similar situations have given up. Deep shame and guilt about not seeing their children and worry about social stigma in the South kept them silent for years, but some have begun pushing publicly for international help to get back their children. Four defectors plan to travel to the United States next month to seek help from U.S. and United Nations officials.

It will not be easy.

Experts say Chinese authorities aren't likely to accept the appeals because the women were illegal residents and their relationships were not legally recognized marriages. Their efforts to reunite with their children could be viewed as individual family problems, rather than human-rights issues requiring international intervention.

"Is there any female defector who had registered their marital status in China?" said Yoon Yeo Sang, a co-founder of the Seoul-based nonprofit Database Center for North Korean Human Rights. "For China, they were the ones who were supposed to be repatri-



In this Sept. 4, 2016 photo, North Korean defector Kim Jungah cries during an interview at her house in Gunpo, South Korea.

ated, and I wonder if China would accept their common-law marital status and take necessary legal steps."

China's foreign ministry did not reply to questions about whether it would help the women. The defectors say they deserve international attention because their plight was primarily caused by the North's abysmal rights conditions and by China's policy of repatriating North Korean defectors who are caught hiding in the country.

"There are South Korean laws, Chinese laws and North Korean laws, but none of them can help us," said Kim Jungah, 40, a North Korean defector living in the South who was separated from her child in China. Now an activist, she will lead three other women on a trip to Washington and New York from Oct. 8-18.

The 35-year-old Kim from Longjing had initially planned to go the United States as well but said she cancelled due to worries about the publicity.

The market for selling North Korean women into marriage in China heated up after the North suffered a devastating famine in the mid-1990s that's thought to have killed hundreds of thousands. China has significantly fewer women than men, and the imbalance is particularly acute in rural farming areas because young women often migrate to big cities seeking better economic opportunities.

Bride trafficking of North Korean women may have eased in recent years, but thousands of North Korean women sold to Chinese men are believed to still live in China, most illegally, according to activists specializing in North Korea affairs.

In the early years of bride trafficking, most North Korean women were lured by

brokers who promised food and jobs in China; some were abducted. But later on, many have volunteered to be sold as brides because they lacked money to sneak across the border and believed living with Chinese men would decrease the danger of arrest and repatriation, according to Ahn Kyung-soo, a Seoul-based activist who has interviewed many defectors.

Kim—the woman who agreed to be identified only by surname—said she slipped into China on her own and managed to stay at an orchard for a few days in 2002. The orchard's owner proposed that she marry one of his Chinese friends, 14 years her senior. Kim accepted because she had nowhere else to go. She later found that the orchard owner had essentially sold her to his friend as a way to clear a 6,000 yuan (\$900) debt.

After arriving in China, many women are beaten or sexually abused before being sold to husbands.

Park Kyung-hwa, who escaped from her traffickers in 2000, said she saw brokers grope other trafficked women many times. She said brokers kicked and beat her with wooden clubs for about 20 minutes when her first attempt to escape failed.

"The brokers didn't see (North Korean women) as human beings, but as products to sell," said Park, 44.

Young women are sometimes sent to karaoke bars or brothels, or forced to work on adult video chat sites, according to defectors and activists.

Park said brokers tried to sell her twice to bars, although she asked to be sold as a bride. One bar owner in Shenyang examined her and two other North Korean women for 10 minutes before deciding not to buy anyone.

World

Syrian troops advance in Aleppo amid war's heaviest bombing

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian troops captured a rebel-held area on the edge of Aleppo on Saturday, tightening their siege on opposition-held neighborhoods in the northern city after what residents described as the heaviest air bombardment of the 5 1/2-year civil war.

The U.N. meanwhile said that nearly 2 million people in Aleppo, Syria's largest city and onetime commercial center, are without running water following the escalation in fighting over the past few days.

The U.N. Security Council called an emergency meeting on the escalating attacks Sunday morning at the request of the United

States, Britain and France.

Government forces captured the rebel-held Palestinian refugee camp of Handarat as airstrikes pounded rebel-held eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo, killing 52 people, including 11 children and six women, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The Local Coordination Committees, another monitoring group, said 49 were killed on Saturday alone.

The Observatory said the death toll in Aleppo is expected to rise since many people are in critical condition and rescue workers are still digging through the rubble.

Residents say the latest

bombardment is the worst they've seen since rebels captured parts of the city in 2012. Activists reported dozens of airstrikes on Friday alone.

"Since the beginning of the crisis, Aleppo has not been subjected to such a vicious campaign," said Mohammed Abu Jaafar, a forensics expert based in the city. "Aleppo is being wiped out."

For days, videos and photographs from eastern Aleppo have shown flattened buildings and paramedics pulling bodies from the rubble. Wounded people have flooded into clinics, where many are being treated on the floor because of a lack of stretchers.

Mexico sees surge of migrants from Haiti, Africa and Asia

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexican immigration authorities said Saturday they have been hit by a surge of almost 5,000 Haitian, African and Asian migrants entering by the southern border in just a few days.

Recent experience suggests the 4,749 migrants entering through Mexico's Tapachula immigration center on the Guatemalan border will soon try to reach the California border, with many expected to apply for asylum.

Mexico's National Immigration Institute said the migrants entered the country between Sept. 21 and 23. It did not break them down according to country of origin, but

recent trends suggest the majority are likely from Haiti.

That would mark a huge increase over the number seen so far this year. The institute said a total of 7,800 Haitian migrants entered Mexico through Guatemala between Jan. 1 and Sept. 21, as well as 1,701 migrants from Africa and 3,753 from various Asian.

The institute said that none of these Haitian, African or Asian migrants have requested permission to stay in Mexico. "Up to this moment, the institute has not received any requests from these foreigners for refuge, asylum or regularization, because they have

expressed that their desire is to reach the United States."

The migrants cannot be sent back to their home countries, so Mexico gives them 20-day temporary visas so they can cross the country and get to the U.S. It said the Africans came mainly from the Congo, Ghana, Guinea, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan and Nigeria.

However, this week the U.S. government said it was widening efforts to deport Haitians in response to the wave of thousands of immigrants from the Caribbean nation who have overwhelmed California border crossings with Mexico in recent months.

WORLD BRIEFS

French leader vows to shut down 'unacceptable' Calais camp

PARIS (AP)—French President Francois Hollande on Saturday confirmed plans to close the squalid Calais migrant camp known as "the Jungle," saying he hopes authorities can relocate as many as 9,000 migrants to reception centers across France in the coming weeks. Hollande, visiting one of France's 164 migrant reception centers in the central city of Tours, said conditions in the Calais camp are "not acceptable" and "extremely difficult," especially for those who fled war to get there. The camp has become a symbol of his government's failure to tackle Europe's migrant crisis, and a target of criticism from

conservative and far-right rivals seeking to unseat him in France's presidential election next year. Hollande, who is to visit Calais itself on Monday, insisted that "we cannot have such camps in France." He said his country must show it is "capable of being dignified, humane and responsible."

South Sudan rebel chief urges armed resistance to Juba govt

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—A top South Sudanese opposition leader called Saturday for armed resistance to the government in Juba—a stance that suggests the troubled Central African nation could face a renewed civil war in the near future. Leader Riek Machar and top officials of the opposition SPLM-

IO party issued a statement saying their forces would reorganize to "wage a popular armed resistance against the authoritarian and racist regime of President Salva Kiir." It's the first political statement by Machar since he fled South Sudan in August. The statement, obtained by The Associated Press, came after a meeting Saturday of Machar and his supporters in Khartoum, Sudan. His call for armed resistance adds to South Sudan's spiraling problems. South Sudan gained independence in 2011 but fell into a civil war in 2013 in which at least 50,000 civilians died and more than 2 million were displaced. A peace deal was forced on both Kiir and Machar last August, but fighting in the capital, Juba, in July put that deal in doubt.

Health & Fitness

Study: All over the world, people celebrate holidays by gaining weight



By **KAREN KAPLAN**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Halloween is right around the corner, which means Thanksgiving and Christmas will be coming up soon. If you're already worried about putting on extra pounds over the holidays, a new study has some discouraging news: Your fears are justified.

Americans who participated in the study saw their weight increase by 0.2 percent during the Thanksgiving holiday and 0.4 percent over Christmas, researchers report in Thursday's edition of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Though Americans are known to have trouble maintaining a healthy weight — 38 percent of us are obese and another 33 percent are merely overweight, according to the latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — this pattern of holiday weight gain is hardly unique to the United States.

In Germany, study participants boosted their body weight by 0.6 percent around

Christmas and another 0.2 percent around Easter. And in Japan, celebrants got 0.5 percent heavier over Christmas and 0.3 percent heavier during Golden Week, a period that encompasses four national holidays.

"Different countries celebrate different holidays, but many such celebration periods have one thing in common: an increased intake of favorite foods," study authors wrote.

The researchers analyzed daily fluctuations in the weight of 2,924 people with Withings wireless scales, which automatically transmit weight measurements to a smartphone app. That prevented study participants from fudging their numbers on days when the scale delivered unwelcome news.

The research team — Elina Helander of Tampere University of Technology in Finland, Brian Wansink of the Cornell University Food and Brand Lab and Angela Chieh of Withings, a consumer electronics company in Paris — examined data collected

from the scales between August 2012 and July 2013. The weight readings were converted into daily weight changes, which were used to compute an average for each country.

To measure the effects of big holidays, the team determined the highest weight of each participant during the 10 days after a holiday and compared it with his or her weight 10 days before the holiday. That way, the researchers were able to include the extra pounds people put on while drinking Pumpkin Spice Lattes (380 calories per 16-ounce serving) in the days leading up to Thanksgiving and eating gingerbread while waiting for Santa.

The effect of all this binging was visible on scales in all three countries.

The Christmas-to-New Year's season was the biggest doozy in the Western nations, causing Germans to put on an average of 1.75 pounds and Americans to gain an average of 1.3 pounds, according to the study.

In Japan, the most signifi-

^{TNS}
Holiday weight gain is not unique to only the United States.

cant toll came during Golden Week, with study participants gaining an average of 1.1 pounds. Although the absolute amount of weight gain was lower than in the other countries, it represented the same percentage increase as was seen in the U.S.

About half of this extra weight was lost relatively soon after it was put on, but the other half persisted "until the summer or beyond," the researchers wrote. In all three

countries, the average weight of the study participants was lower at the end of the study than it was at the start.

That's probably a sign that this group of people was "more motivated toward weight loss than average," the researchers noted. (And that explains why they invested in Withings scales, which start at about \$130.)

A truly representative sample of Americans, Germans and Japanese might gain even more weight over the holidays, Wansink said. Previous studies have found that people tend to gain 3 to 4 pounds over the holidays and take longer

to burn it off, but those results were based on self-reported data that aren't as reliable as the measurements from the wireless scales.

Wansink said he was surprised the Americans didn't pack on holiday pounds more often. The Fourth of July and Labor Day were two prime candidates, since celebrations often revolve around barbecues.

The study findings demonstrate that if you wait until January to overhaul your eating habits, you're already way behind.

"Make an October resolution instead of a New Year's resolution," Wansink said.

In Humble Gratitude



We, the Family of the late

†**Juan Santos Dela Cruz**
"Juan Doi"

Would like to extend our sincerest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to all our families and friends, near and far, for your kindness, support and words of encouragement during our time of sorrow. Your most comforting expressions of sympathy, kindness and prayer have deeply touched us. To the staff of St. Jude Renal Care Facility, thank you for all your services. We are eternally indebted to you all.

You will always be remembered by the family of the late
†Juan Doi who now rests in paradise.

May God Bless You All!

Thank you Yan Un Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Juana Jones Castro-Dela Cruz, Children and The "Doi" Family

Oral drug delivery company says opioid lawsuit has no merit

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—One of the companies alleged to have conspired to keep generic versions of a popular opioid treatment off the market said that an antitrust lawsuit filed Thursday has no merit.

Attorneys general for 35 states and the District of Columbia filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, alleging that British drugmaker Indivior and New Jersey's MonoSol Rx conspired to cor-

ner the market on Suboxone.

The drug is used to treat people hooked on heroin and other painkillers.

MonoSol Rx chief executive Keith Kendall said in a statement Friday that the company learned of the complaint Thursday night. "We believe that the allegations in the complaint are wholly without merit and the suit is both factually and legally deficient," he said.

The complaint alleges the two companies conspired to

make an oral strip form of the drug that they then marketed as safer than tablets, squashing competition.

The attorneys general say the conduct is illegal "product hopping," where a company makes small changes to a product to keep cheaper alternatives off the market, Pennsylvania's Attorney General Bruce R. Beemer said in a press release Thursday.

Indivior has not responded to requests for comment.

Life & Style

Obama: African-American museum tells 'story of all of us'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama on Friday celebrated the pending opening of the Smithsonian's new African-American museum and said the institution, decades in the making, is a powerful place because it tells "the story of all of us," not just the famous.

Obama also said he hoped the museum would help people bridge divides that were re-exposed by the latest fatal, police-involved shootings of black men.

The country's first black president, Obama was scheduled to preside over an outdoor ribbon-cutting ceremony Saturday morning for the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which was built on the National Mall in the shadow of the Washington Monument.

"The thing about this mu-



seum is that it's ... more than just telling stories about the famous. It's not just about the

icons," Obama said at a White House reception celebrating the museum. He added that

the museum has plenty of space to feature black icons like Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Jr., Muhammad Ali and others.

"What makes the museum so powerful and so visceral is that it's the story of all of us, the folks whose names you never heard of, but whose contributions, day

after day, decade after decade, combined to push us forward and the entire nation forward," Obama said, mentioning maids, porters and others who stood up for themselves despite daily assaults on their dignity.

Obama pointed out that the hundreds of people who were invited to the reception in the

Will Smith sits in the front row at the Kennedy Center in Washington, Friday, Sept. 23, 2016, to attend a performance of, "Taking the Stage, African American Music and Stories that Changed a Nation."

Grand Foyer included artists Quincy Jones and Phyllis Rashad, astronaut Mae Jemison and Oprah Winfrey, "the woman who owns the universe." Civil rights legends like Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., and Jesse Jackson attended, along with representatives of a new generation of activists, including DeRay Mckesson of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Everyone in the room can think of an unsung hero, Obama said. "But the point is that all of us cannot forget that the only reason that we're standing here is because somebody, somewhere stood up for us," he said. "Stood up when it was risky. Stood up when it was not popular. And somehow, standing up together, managed to change the world."

AP Source: Brad Pitt allegations relate to treatment of son

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Allegations Brad Pitt was abusive on a private plane last week relate to the actor's treatment of his 15-year-old son, sources said Friday, as the FBI continued to gather information before determining whether to open an investigation.

FBI Spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said the agency hasn't made a decision on a formal investigation into what occurred on a plane ferrying Pitt, his wife Angelina Jolie Pitt and their six children.

Several news outlets have reported that a child welfare agency in Los Angeles is investigating the well-being of the children, who range in ages from 8 to 15.

Sources familiar with the allegations, but not authorized to speak publicly, say the child welfare investiga-

tion centers on Pitt's conduct toward his son Maddox, 15, during an argument on the Sept. 14 flight. No law enforcement agency responded to the plane when it landed in Minnesota after the incident.

Amara Suarez, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, said the agency could not confirm whether it was investigating Pitt or the well-being of the former couple's children.

Calls to the offices of Pitt's attorney, Lance Spiegel, and Jolie Pitt's lawyer, Laura Wasser, were forwarded to recorded messages stating their firms do not comment on clients.

Jolie Pitt filed for divorce Monday and her lawyer released a statement the following day saying she came to the decision "for the health of the

family." She listed their separation date as Sept. 15, the day after the alleged plane incident, and the actress is seeking sole custody of all six of the children.

Koochiching County, Minnesota, Sheriff Perryn Hedlund told The Associated Press on Thursday that Brad Pitt was on a plane that landed at the International Falls, Minnesota, airport near the Canadian border on Sept. 14.

Hedlund said his sheriff's deputies were not called to the airport, and International Falls police were also not called.

"There's no incident whatsoever reported to law enforcement," Hedlund said.

He said he didn't know why the plane landed in International Falls, but said it's not uncommon for hockey players or other celebrities to stop at the airport.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Ashes to auction: Capote remains sell for \$45,000

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Some people will pay good money for anything involving the late Truman Capote. Including his ashes. Julien's Auctions in Los Angeles announced Saturday that Capote's ashes, contained in a Japanese wooden box have sold for \$45,000. That's well above the original estimate, which the auction house reported as \$4,000. The ashes are dated Aug. 28, 1984, days after the author of "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and "In Cold Blood" died at 59. The ashes were long kept by Capote's close friend and ex-wife of Johnny Carson, Joanne Carson, who died last year.

'Don King Way' won't move to street where he killed a man

CLEVELAND (AP)—Cleveland's city council won't further consider a proposal to put Don King's name on the street where the legendary boxing promoter stomped a man to death in 1966. The honorary "Don King Way" already exists in Cleveland, on a segment of a boulevard near the newspaper he owns. Two council members proposed moving the honorary street name to

an avenue where King killed an employee. Cleveland.com reports the council president determined the proposal won't move forward. King says he doesn't care whether "Don King Way" is moved. King says he's felt contrition for killing the man, Sam Garrett, who he says had jumped on his back. King spent almost four years in prison for the killing and was later pardoned by former Ohio Gov. Jim Rhodes.

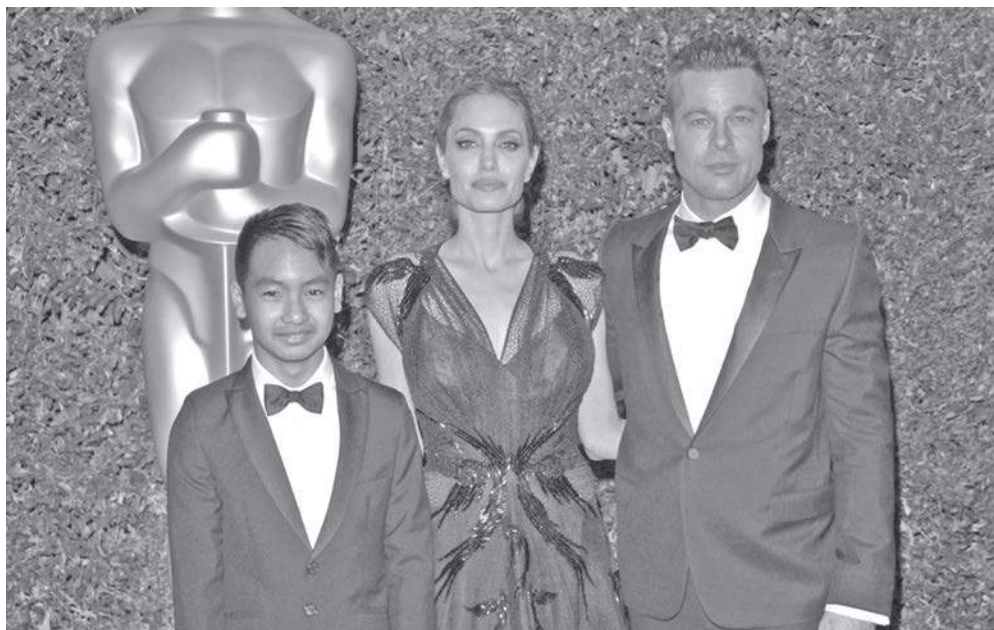
Florence museum head defends party rental in Pitti Palace

ROME (AP)—A wild bachelor's party at the Pitti Palace art museum in Florence? Nothing of the kind, says museum director Eike Schmidt, who is defending the Renaissance palazzo's courtyard's rental, saying it was for a pre-nuptial dinner paid for by an Italian company president who was getting married Saturday in a Florence church. Schmidt, who also directs the Uffizi Galleries, insisted in statement Saturday there was "nothing vulgar or excessive" about decorations in the courtyard for the party this week. Schmidt, a German art historian, expressed surprise about the fuss in some Italian media, since Italian national museums have rented out

space for galas and parties for decades. He says without revenues like the 70,500 euro (\$79,000) rental fee, museums would have to raise ticket prices or renounce restoring artworks.

Chinese superstar Lang Lang playing Boston Symphony opener

BOSTON (AP)—A classical music superstar from China is helping the Boston Symphony Orchestra kick off its new season this weekend. Piano virtuoso Lang Lang will perform Prokofiev's "Piano Concerto No. 3" as the orchestra conducted by Andris Nelsons opens its 2016-17 run at Symphony Hall on Saturday. Lang Lang has performed at the Grammys and soccer's World Cup. He also serves as a U.N. "messenger of peace" and has recorded music for PlayStation 3 games. Ahead of the season opener, Lang Lang staged a guest artist "takeover" of the BSO Instagram account on Friday. Boston is the latest stop in a whirlwind U.S. tour for Lang Lang. Earlier this month, he performed in Dallas and Cincinnati, and plays next week in Washington, New York City, Carmel, Indiana, and Champaign, Illinois.



In this Nov. 16, 2013 file photo, Maddox Jolie-Pitt, from left, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt attend the 2013 Governors Awards in Los Angeles. J

Backstreet Boys to perform Las Vegas residency

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Backstreet will be back—and back and back and back—in Las Vegas. The pop group Backstreet Boys confirmed reports Fri-

Lady Gaga posts track list online for 'Joanne'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lady Gaga is introducing "Joanne" to the world.

The pop star posted the track list Friday for her forthcoming album online.

In addition to the title track and the recently released single "Perfect Illusion," the 11-song "Joanne" features tunes with such titles as "John Wayne" and "Sinner's Prayer."

The image of the album's blue-and-white art also revealed that a song called "Hey Girl" is a collaboration with singer Florence Welch.

The name Joanne is both a middle name of Lady Gaga, whose real name is Stefani

Joanne Angelina Germanotta, and the first name of her deceased aunt.

The deluxe edition of "Joanne" includes three additional songs: "Grigio Girls," "Just Another Day" and "Angel Down (Work Tape)."

The complete list:

1. "Diamond Heart"
2. "A-Yo"
3. "Joanne"
4. "John Wayne"
5. "Dancin' In Circles"
6. "Perfect Illusion"
7. "Million Reasons"
8. "Sinner's Prayer"
9. "Come To Mama"
10. "Hey Girl"
11. "Angel Down"



In this May 19, 2016 file photo, A.J. McLean, from left, Kevin Richardson, Brian Littrell, Nick Carter and Howie Dorough of the Backstreet Boys perform at the 12th Annual MusiCares MAP Fund Benefit Concert held at The Novo by Microsoft, in Los Angeles. AP

Pippa Middleton's phone hacked, thousands of photos stolen

LONDON (AP)—London police say they are investigating the reported hacking of the iCloud account of Pippa Middleton, younger sister of the Duchess of Cambridge, and the alleged theft of 3,000 photographs.



Middleton

on an encrypted messaging service and sent sample photos showing Middleton being fitted for a wedding dress in advance of her planned 2017 nuptials.

The Sun said the hacker also claimed

to possess Middleton's informal photos of sister Kate with her children, Princess Charlotte and Prince George, and naked images of her fiancé, James Matthews.

The Metropolitan Police says no arrests have been made.

day they will begin a concert residency next year at Planet Hollywood.

"Backstreet Boys: Larger Than Life" will feature members Nick Carter, Howie Dorough, Brian Littrell, AJ McLean and Kevin Richardson.

"We're going to call the show 'Larger Than Life,' and we're taking that theme and we're going to run with it," Richardson said in a statement.

Littrell said the show, which has been initially scheduled to

run from March to July, will be like a typical Backstreet Boys concert "on steroids."

The group's first performance will be March 1. Tickets go on sale Oct. 1.

The show will be held in the same theater where Britney

Spears and Jennifer Lopez perform their Vegas residencies.

The Backstreet Boys formed in 1993 and are best known for such hits as "I Want It That Way," "As Long as You Love Me" and "Everybody (Backstreet's Back)."

Puff Daddy donates \$1 million to Howard University

WASHINGTON (AP)—Puff Daddy is donating \$1 million to Howard University, where he once was a student.

The rapper and music mogul, whose real name is Sean Combs, made the announcement alongside Howard President Wayne Frederick at his

Bad Boy Records reunion tour show Thursday night in Washington, D.C., where the historically black college is located.

Howard says the money will



PuffDaddy

go toward creating a Sean Combs Scholarship Fund, which will award money to undergraduate business majors with a financial need. The school also says recipients will get an internship with

one of Combs' companies and mentoring through Combs Enterprises.

Combs spent two years at Howard before dropping out in 1990. He received an honorary doctorate and served as commencement speaker in 2014.

Mom suspects military wife is retreating from her husband

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and son-in-law are both in the military. Currently her husband is stationed elsewhere. They have a 6-month-old daughter, and I'm staying with her to help her out for now. I have a gut feeling that she is cheating. Do I have the right to ask her?

WORRIED MOTHER IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WORRIED: Of course you do—that's what mothers are for. You also have the right as her mother to point out that if it's true, what the consequences of her fling may be when her husband returns. When you talk to her, try not to come across as judgmental as much as concerned, and be prepared to do a lot of listening, because people don't usually start affairs for no reason.

DEAR ABBY: I'm fairly certain that you have never heard this one before, but I am a slob. It's embarrassing, but it is what it is. I'm working on it, but I'm nearly 70, so major change is unlikely.

I suspect a friend of mine used my hidden key and came into my house to clean for me on my birthday while I was out to dinner with my children. She meant well, but I have asked her repeatedly not to help me. She simply refuses to listen to what

she doesn't want to hear. She says she cleans because it's a stress reliever for her, but it just makes me feel more stressed.

Needless to say, I have taken in all of my hidden keys. I am frustrated by her actions and feel violated, not honored. Honestly, I am just embarrassed. I haven't been feeling well for a while, so the house was particularly messy. I suspect she's waiting for me to acknowledge her "thoughtfulness."

Abby, please tell your readers that "helping a friend" is NO HELP if it isn't welcome. I feel what she did was stubborn and selfish since it was what she wanted to do—not what I wanted. I'm a big girl, and I can ask for help if I want it.

FRUSTRATED IN THE WEST

DEAR FRUSTRATED: I feel for you, but the person who needs to receive that message is the person who has been doing this "for" you over your objections. Are you absolutely sure that it's this friend who's doing it and not some other well-meaning person—a relative, perhaps? If you are certain, then deliver the message with both barrels.

What concerns me is your statement that you have taken in your extra keys. That means "someone" may have made an extra copy, which would be not only a huge invasion of privacy but also a security problem. If the problem persists, have your locks changed.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: At what age is it acceptable and appropriate for my daughters to move out?

WONDERING IN WICHITA

DEAR WONDERING: Many young adults live with their parents today because they are burdened with student loan debt and are unable to find jobs. I think the logical time for them to move out would be when they are able to support themselves.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	38 Jungfrau, e.g.	59 Nourished	16 That lady
1 Picnic dessert	40 Flightless bird	20 Singer Anita	21 Castro's land
4 Enlighten	41 Asset	22 End — era	23 Employee's milieu
9 Kids' card game	43 Of a blood line	27 Cagers' gp.	29 Tibetan monk
12 "Nasty!"	45 Royal home	30 Synagogue	32 Jazz Fitzgerald
13 Gymnast Comaneci	47 Depot (Abbr.)	34 Enduring literary work	37 Card game
14 Flamenco cheer	48 Eggs	39 Strong	42 Capital of South Korea
15 Conjecture	49 Vacuuming and dusting	44 Like sashimi	45 Skin opening
17 Scooted	54 Sinbad's bird	46 Acknowledge	50 French article
18 Attila, notably	55 Altercation	51 Not on bread	52 Reuben
19 Chicago suburb	56 Memo letters	53 Josh	
21 Cringes in fear	57 Ram's mate		
24 Turner and Danson	58 Put in office		
25 E.T.'s craft			

Solution time: 28 mins.

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I	T	A	L	I	C	S	S	A	Y	N

Friday's answer 9-26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
			18					19	20	
21	22	23					24			
25			26			27		28		29
31			32		33		34		35	
36			37		38		39		40	
			41			42		43	44	
45	46							47		
48			49		50			51	52	53
54			55					56		
57			58					59		

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Christina Milian, 35; Serena Williams, 35; Jim Caviezel, 48; Olivia Newton-John, 68.

Happy Birthday: Show compassion and kindness to others. Your desire to step up and make a difference will help you persuade others to do things your way. Use similar tactics at home when faced with controversy. Honesty and sensitivity will result in added respect and the confidence you need to advance in life. Move forward with pride. Your numbers are 3, 10, 16, 24, 32, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Learn from past experience and turn that knowledge into something that will help you excel. Show passion in what you do and offer help to those in need. Brighten someone's day and it will revitalize your spirit. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Voice your opinions, but don't bring your emotions into the mix. If you rely on facts, you will sway more people to see things your way. A pick-me-up will improve your attitude. A trendy new look will be well received. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Focus on making improvements at home. Listen to complaints and do your best to meet the needs of the people you love. A social event will lead to greater personal stability. Use your talents in an unusual way. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Learn from watching others. Your peers have more to offer than you realize. Don't be afraid to do things in your own unique way. Make

a positive change to the way you present what you do and how you look. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Explore new possibilities and network with people who share your interest in bringing about positive change. Don't take an emotional risk. Finishing what you start and keeping promises will help you avoid insult, injury or having your ego deflated. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Work toward building a better relationship with the people who influence your life the most. Having a practical and helpful attitude will encourage you to find common ground. A personal situation will improve if you are patient. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get together with people from your past, but don't be too quick to share your current status, position or plans. Gather information and you'll discover whether your associates are a good fit for helping you attain your goals. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Planning and preparation will make a difference to the way things unfold today. Don't let an emotional matter stop you from giving your very best. Stress is best dealt with by keeping busy and striving to meet your expectations. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Offering to help others is thoughtful, but can also be dissatisfying if you don't receive the appreciation that you deserve. It's OK to take a moment to take care of your needs. ★★★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	8						1			
9			2		5				8	
			8	9	6					
	7	4		2		8	6			
		2	3		4	5				
	3	9		5		1	4			
			7	4	2					
3			1		8					9
	1						2			

Difficulty Level ★

9/26

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

3	1	7	4	9	8	6	5	2
8	4	2	1	6	5	3	7	9
5	6	9	7	3	2	4	1	8
1	5	8	9	2	3	7	4	6
9	3	6	5	7	4	2	8	1
2	7	4	6	8	1	5	9	3
4	2	1	3	5	9	8	6	7
6	9	3	8	4	7	1	2	5
7	8	5	2	1	6	9	3	4

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An emotional matter can turn into a costly affair if you don't know how to say "no." It's best to be blunt and voice your opinion when dealing with joint ventures. Good fortune will come from showing restraint. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look at the big picture and revise your personal papers and financial statements to fit your lifestyle and future direction. An unorthodox medical practice is best researched before you take a risk with your health. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Someone will help you make personal adjustments that will help free up your time. A new look based on a healthier lifestyle will attract attention and build your confidence. A progressive approach to personal finances will pay off. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are helpful, courteous and serious. You are dependable and sensitive.

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

'FARGO' (TV SERIES)

Solution: 11 letters

Y	L	A	R	S	S	O	N	A	V	O	N	O	D	P
N	L	N	O	J	E	F	F	R	E	Y	R	O	E	L
N	Z	L	R	T	E	S	S	E	J	A	D	G	C	E
A	A	O	O	H	S	E	D	T	N	D	G	O	E	M
M	H	U	H	M	G	K	A	S	G	Y	L	T	P	O
A	N	B	A	N	A	I	O	E	B	I	H	O	T	N
R	O	R	W	O	N	M	R	L	N	A	V	E	I	S
T	T	A	L	A	G	H	U	H	N	L	L	K	O	O
I	N	D	E	H	A	M	D	R	A	G	Y	N	L	
N	R	J	Y	R	Q	F	O	M	G	N	L	©	E	V
O	O	T	D	U	L	U	T	H	A	M	K	Ⓚ	H	E
S	H	T	I	O	S	H	E	R	I	F	F	©	C	R
N	T	S	Y	D	I	N	E	R	D	U	N	S	T	S
A	T	D	E	T	N	A	G	I	L	L	I	M	I	O
D	J	O	E	L	O	R	N	E	T	S	R	I	K	N

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Blumquist, Brad, Colin, Danson, Deception, Diner, Dodd, Donovan, Duluth, Dunst, Ethan, Floyd, Gale, Gang, Gerhardt, Grimly, Gus, Hanks, Hawley, Jean, Jeffrey, Jesse, Joel, Kirsten, Kitchen, Larsson, Lester, Lorne, Lou, Malvo, Mann, Martin, Mike, Milligan, Molly, Noah, Nygaard, Peggy, Plemons, Ransom, Sheriff, Smart, Solverson, Ted, Thornton, Zahn

Last Thursday's Answer: Crown Jewel
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TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Friday, September 30, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1) July 29, 2016
 - 2) August 30, 2016

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ¹

III. REPORTS

- a. Chair's Report
- b. Executive Director's Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Organizational Chart

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. NMI Employees' DC Retirement Plan
- b. Personnel Regulations § 170-30.5-510
Leave Balances from Previous Employment

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION ²

VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

¹ Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The USDA, Farm Service Agency is accepting applications for two (2) Loss Adjuster positions – one (1) on Rota and one (1) on Saipan. Applicants **MUST** have experience in Tropical Agriculture. A Loss Adjuster is an independent contractor who will visit farms for the purpose of inspecting, measuring, and appraising agricultural crops. A Loss Adjuster will also ensure compliance with acreage and production reporting requirements. Training will be provided. Pay begins at \$10.00 per hour for orientation, formal classroom, and on the job training. Pay will increase to \$18.00 per hour after successful completion and certification. Authorized travel expenses for training will be paid.

Interested applicants may inquire with the Guam County FSA Office at (671) 300-8551. Completed applications must be submitted by close of business September 30, 2016 to the Guam County FSA Office, 770 E. Sunset Blvd., Suite 265, Barrigada, Guam 96913. Fax: (855) 356-9491.

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P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Gloria Cavanagh
MVA Acting Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher Concepcion
Managing Director

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Eagles go from bottom to top in one statistic



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—

After finishing last in the NFL in time of possession each of the past three seasons, the Eagles lead the league by controlling the ball an average time of 37:43. That's almost 12 minutes more per game than they held the ball last season.

The reason for the dramatic turnaround is Doug Pederson's offensive philosophy is the opposite of Chip Kelly's up-tempo, no-huddle style. Pederson runs a more traditional offense that allows Philadelphia's defense time to rest.

It's reflected in the Eagles' performance: ranked No. 4 in total yards allowed. Under Kelly, the Eagles finished in the bottom five in yards yielded three straight seasons. Players often were worn down by the fourth quarter and the defense was tired late in the season.

Kelly insisted time of possession was a meaningless stat. He used to say teams who held the ball longer were just better at wasting time in the huddle.

But Philadelphia is 2-0 heading into Sunday's game against unbeaten Pittsburgh.

They only play every four years, but how cool it is that each is 2-0 and looking strong when they meet Sunday?

Even without star running back Le'Veon Bell and emerging receiver Martavis Bryant—Bell finishes his three-game league suspension this weekend, while Bryant is suspended for the entire season—Pittsburgh's offense has hummed. DeAngelo Williams leads the NFL in rushing in his 11th pro season, Antonio Brown is the game's most dangerous wide-out, and Ben Roethlisberger is making big plays.

"They don't ask for a birth certificate before the game," Eagles defensive coordina-



tor Jim Schwartz says of the 33-year-old Williams.

"They don't give you 9 yards (to gain a first down) if you are over 30. You've still got to get 10. He's a patient runner, he's compact, and he's strong. He can test every area

of your run gaps."

The Steelers don't have many run gaps; their rush defense ranks second. So Philly might need to rely once more on rookie quarterback Carson Wentz. He's made a strong debut in wins over Cleveland

and Chicago, but Pittsburgh isn't anything like those two tailenders.

Pederson pays Wentz quite a compliment when asked if he saw some Roethlisberger in the second overall draft pick.

"Little bit, little bit," Peder-

son says.

"Carson has the ability to extend plays with his legs. Ben is big, strong, physical in the pocket, hard to bring down and continues to have great vision down the field.

"I think that's one thing

Pats go from Brady to back up to Brissett, keep winning

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—The more assets the Patriots lose this season, the better they seem to play.

New England entered Week 3 of Tom Brady's four-game "Deflategate" suspension down to just one healthy full-time quarterback following backup Jimmy Garoppolo's shoulder injury last week against Miami.

But not even one of the NFL's top-ranked defenses could slow down a Patriots train that has barely missed a beat while getting off to a 3-0 start.

The latest exhibition was

a 27-0 dismantling of the Houston Texans (2-1), a team that suddenly looked very pedestrian.

"We really asked a lot out of the team this week—they responded," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "Just really proud of the way our guys competed."

Belichick rolled the dice by not adding another quarterback to the roster during the short week, and the trust he had in rookie Jacoby Brissett proved to be spot on.

Brissett began the season as the third-string quarterback

behind Brady and Garoppolo. He trotted out on the field Thursday as the first rookie start for the Patriots since Drew Bledsoe in 1993.

He didn't have a stats-rich game, but was composed and made plays when it counted. He finished the night 11 of 19 for 103 yards, and ran eight times for 48 yards and a touchdown.

"You just always want to be ready and we have a great team, so players just welcome you no matter who is in the huddle," Brissett said. "At any moment in the game no

one wavered, no one flinched, and the results proved themselves with what our team did tonight."

Under Belichick, quarterbacks are 6-0 in their first career start.

The Patriots have 10 days to recuperate, with only a game against Buffalo (0-2) on Oct. 2 remains before Brady could inexplicably return to a 4-0 team.

Meanwhile a Texans team that looked so promising after wins over Chicago and Kansas City, was lethargic in all three phases.

ATLANTA (AP)—U.S. captain Davis Love III referred to his Ryder Cup team as "the best golf team maybe ever assembled," a surprising comment for two reasons.

This was Davis Love, not exactly known for his brash comments.

And the U.S. team isn't even assembled yet.

Two days before Love makes his final captain's pick, and a week before the Ryder Cup begins at Hazeltine, Love was on SiriusXM's "Fairways of Life" show on Friday and asked whether the Americans have tried too hard.

He said they tend to panic after a bad round or lose momentum and are guilty at times of playing not to lose.

"You need to stand up

Love calls US team 'best maybe ever assembled' in Ryder Cup

there and smash it down the middle and take off walking and let the other team know, 'We are going to dominate you,' Love said.

It's all about instilling confidence in the U.S. team, believing it has the better squad. Love noted the Americans don't have to do anything "super human." And then he finished his thought with words sure to cross the Atlantic.

"We're a great golf team," he said. "This is the best golf team maybe ever assembled."

And just like that, Love put himself in the company of other captains making bold comments.

All but one backfired.

The Americans had won 11 of 12 times in the Ryder Cup when the matches were played in 1967 at Champions Golf Club in Houston, with the great Ben Hogan as the captain. The opposing captain Dai Rees gave lengthy introductions at the pre-tournament dinner to the Great Britain & Ireland squad before taking his seat.

Hogan asked that applause be held until he was finished.

Players stood as Hogan called their name, and he said, "Ladies and gentleman, the U.S. Ryder Cup team—the finest golfers in the world."

And he sat down.

GB&I was no match for the Americans in those days, and it showed. Arnold Palmer and Gardner Dickinson won all five matches in a 23 +8 + victory.

The Americans had lost two straight Ryder Cups when Raymond Floyd took over as captain in 1989 at The Belfry and summoned his inner Hogan. At the gala ball that week, Floyd introduced his team as "the 12 greatest players in the world."

This didn't exactly strike fear into Europe. Nick Faldo supposedly turned to Seve Ballesteros and said, "I guess that makes you No. 13."

Europe built a 5-3 lead after the opening day, kept a two-point margin going into singles and the Ryder Cup ended in a draw, which effectively was another victory for Europe because it retained the cup.

Not to be forgotten is Hal Sutton, captain of the 2004 team at Oakland Hills.

Sutton gave golf what it wanted—Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson as partners—which sounded great on paper.

"This might be the greatest team in U.S. history," Sutton said after announcing they would be in the opening match. "Why was it so alluring? They're two of the

AP
In this Monday, Sept. 19, 2016, file photo, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz (11) throws a pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Chicago Bears in Chicago. Wentz's excellent start is nothing compared to what Ben Roethlisberger did in his rookie season. The two quarterbacks share an agent and other similarities. They'll meet Sunday when the Philadelphia Eagles host their intra-state rival Pittsburgh Steelers.

with Carson's strength is he continues to have that vision down the field when things begin to break down.

"So, yeah, there are a lot of similarities there. The fact that they're both very good throwers outside the pocket is a tribute to both of them."

Meanwhile, Brett Favre likes what he sees so far from Wentz.

The recent Hall of Fame inductee said on his SiriusXM NFL Radio show this week that he likes Wentz's poise. Considering that Wentz played FCS ball in college—albeit at five-time champion North Dakota State, as close to an FBS program as you can get—that's high praise.

"He looked like the 10-year veteran," Favre said. "I think Philly is still without committing a turnover. And going into Chicago, whether Chicago is playing great or not so great, is a tough place to play, especially for a young kid. But I thought he handled himself extremely well. I'm impressed with him."

"And I think Doug (Pederson) and that staff—and I'm a little biased to Doug because he and I are really good friends and we go way back, and he was a teammate and a great friend of mine for a long time and still is—the play calling and design ... I thought was really good and it also fit what Carson does well."

greatest players in American history. They might shoot 58 tomorrow—if they make it that far."

They had a better-ball score of 61, which might have been really special if Woods and Mickelson had made it to the 18th hole. Instead, Colin Montgomerie and Padraig Harrington beat them on the 17th, and then Darren Clarke and Lee Westwood beat the not-so-dynamic duo in four-somes that afternoon.

Oh, well. It sounded good.

How will Love's comments come across?

Bravado is not part of Love's personality. He sounded as though he was reminding his team how good they are—more cheerleader than field general.

Nationals get third NL East title in 5 years



PITTSBURGH
(AP)—The

Washington Nationals clinched their third National League East title in five years, beating the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-1 Saturday night behind 5 1/3 scoreless innings from rookie reliever Reynaldo Lopez.

Stephen Drew's two-run single capped a three-run first inning for the Nationals, who return to the postseason after a one-year absence. Their win ensured a playoff berth, and they won the division about 20 minutes later when the second-place New York Mets lost to Philadelphia.

Lopez (4-3) came on to the start the bottom of the fourth inning with a 6-1 lead and allowed three hits while striking out five and walking one.

Ivan Nova (12-8) lost his second straight outing after a 5-0 start with Pittsburgh, giving up six runs—three earned—and eight hits in four innings.

Red Sox 6, Rays 4

In St. Petersburg, Dustin Pedroia hit his fourth career grand slam to help Rick Porcello get his major league-leading 22nd win, and Boston clinched a playoff berth by extending its winning streak to 10—the team's longest in September since 1949.

Boston maintained a 5+ game lead over Toronto for the division title and ensured no worse than the AL's second wild card.

Pedroia stopped an 0-for-17 skid with a single in the sixth and gave Boston a 6-3 lead with a seventh-inning drive off Danny Farquhar.

Blue Jays 3, Yankees 0

In Toronto, Jose Bautista hit a three-run homer off Tyler Clippard (3-5) in the eighth inning, reaching 30 homers for the seventh straight season.

New York has been shut out in three straight games for the first time July 27-28, 1975. The Yankees have lost 10 of 13 following a seven-game winning streak and likely will miss the playoffs for the third time in four years.

Jason Grilli (7-5) struck out Billy Butler in the eighth to strand a runner at third, and Roberto Osuna completed a three-hitter for his 35th save.

Phillies 10, Mets 8

In New York, the Mets fell behind 10-0 by the fourth inning, then fell short of what would have been the largest comeback victory in team history.

New York dropped into a tie with San Francisco for the two NL wild cards. St. Louis trails by a half-game.



Washington Nationals' Max Scherzer, center, and teammates celebrate after clinching the National League East following a 6-1 win over the Pittsburgh Pirates in a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016.

1 1/2 games for the top spot.

Wade Miley (9-13) allowed one run and seven hits and tied a career high with 11 strikeouts over 8 2/3 innings to beat Robbie Ray (8-14).

White Sox 8, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Melky Cabrera and Jose Abreu hit RBI singles in the first off Cody Anderson (2-5), and Todd Frazier connected for his 39th homer in the sixth as Chicago stopped a six-game losing streak.

Joel Quintana (13-11) gave up one run in six innings and beat Cleveland for the second time in 11 days. The Indians' magic number is two for clinching the AL Central.

Marlins 6, Braves 4

In Miami, Derek Dietrich hit a two-run homer, helping stop Atlanta's season-high seven-game winning streak.

Atlanta's Freddie Freeman extended his hitting streak to 28 games in the first inning and has reached base in 44 straight. He also hit a solo home run in the sixth, his 32nd.

Brian Ellington (4-2) earned the win in relief and A.J. Ramos got his 39th save.

Angels 10, Astros 4

In Houston, Kole Calhoun had three hits and two RBI, and Los Angeles scored nine runs in the final two innings. Houston fell to three games behind Baltimore for the second AL wild card.

Albert Pujols, Mike Trout and C.J. Cron each added two RBI for the Angels.

Twins 3, Mariners 2

In Minneapolis, Miguel Sano hit a tiebreaking homer in the fourth inning off Ariel Miranda (5-2) and Tyler Duffey (9-11) gave up four runs and four hits in seven innings. Seattle is 2+ games back for the second AL wild card.

Sano's 24th homer followed Nelson Cruz's tying two-run shot for Seattle in the top of the fourth.

Reds 6, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Dan Straily (14-8) allowed one run and five hits in 6 2/3 innings, and Joey Votto hit a two-run homer in the first off Taylor Jungmann (0-5). Straily is 3-0 with a 1.67 ERA in four starts against Milwaukee this year.

Philadelphia's Maikel Franco and Darin Ruf each hit long a home run for the second consecutive night as Philadelphia built its lead.

Sean Gilmartin (0-1) fell behind 3-0 after 12 pitches and left having allowed five runs in two-thirds of an inning.

Jay Bruce hit his first career pinch-hit home run with one out in the ninth. The Mets put two on before Michael Mariot got his second save by retiring Lucas Duda on a popup and Travis d'Arnaud on a comebacker.

Dodgers 14, Rockies 1

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw scattered three hits over seven scoreless innings, Josh Reddick slugged a grand slam in the seventh and Los Angeles moved within a game of clinching its fourth consecutive NL West title.

The Dodgers can wrap up the title Sunday in Hall of Fame broadcaster Vin Scully's final home game before he retires next weekend.

Kershaw (12-3) struck out six and walked none to improve to 8-1 at home.

Chad Bettis (13-8) gave up seven runs and eight hits in 4 2/3 innings, struck out three and walked four.

Giants 9, Padres 6, 10 innings

In San Diego, San Francisco blew a six-run lead before scoring three times in the 10th inning, including a two-run home run by Denard Span, to beat San Diego and pull even with the New York Mets atop the NL wild-card standings.

Angel Pagan scored the go-ahead run on a fielding error by rookie right fielder Hunter Renfroe with one out in the 10th, followed by Span's 11th homer, off Kevin Quackenbush (7-7).

Will Smith (2-4) pitched one-third of an inning for the win. Sergio Romo got his third save.

Royals 7, Tigers 4

In Detroit, Paulo Orlando hit a

tying, two-run double and Eric Hosmer followed with a three-run homer against Francisco Rodriguez (3-4), capping a comeback from a 4-2 deficit in the ninth.

Wade Davis (2-1) pitched a one-hit eighth and Kelvin Herrera, Kansas City's seventh pitcher, got three straight outs for his 12th save.

Detroit's five-game winning streak was stopped and the World Series champion Royals ended a four-game skid.

Cardinals 10, Cubs 4

In Chicago, Yadier Molina drove in four runs and Stephen Piscotty homered to help St. Louis in its wild-card chase. Randal Grichuk added three RBI and Jhonny Peralta had three hits.

Jason Hammel (15-10) allowed six runs and six hits while getting just seven outs, hurting his bid for a postseason rotation spot.

Alex Reyes (4-1) needed 115 pitches to get through five innings but settled down after

a tough start to allow three runs and six hits.

Rangers 5, Athletics 0

In Oakland, the lone veteran in the lineup a day after Texas won another AL West title, Elvis Andrus hit a pair of two-run homers.

Yu Darvish (6-5) had all the run support he needed on a couple of big swings from Andrus, who had his first career multi-homer game. Robinson Chirinos added an RBI double in the ninth for Texas (92-63), which moved 29 games above .500 for the first time since exactly four years ago on Sept. 24, 2012.

Orioles 6, Diamondbacks 1

In Baltimore, Mark Trumbo connected for his league-leading 45th homer and Trey Mancini hit his third homer in nine major league at-bats.

Baltimore pulled a half-game ahead of the Tigers for the AL's second wild card and trail the Toronto Blue Jays by

Girardi said he walked out on media over bullpen question

TORONTO (AP)—New York manager Joe Girardi said he walked out of Friday's post-game media session because he was upset by questions about his bullpen usage, not because the slumping Yankees lost ground in the AL wild card race and were eliminated from the AL East.

"That's a sign of some of the questions I was asked,"

Girardi said before Saturday's game. "There's some things I don't like. If I don't like it, I'm not going to deal with it, bottom line."

The Yankees lost 9-0 in Toronto on Friday, their ninth defeat in 12 games following a seven-game winning streak. Girardi got up and angrily walked out after being pressed on his decision to use right-hander Blake Parker

in the seventh inning with his team trailing 3-0. Toronto scored four runs in one-third of an inning against Parker to blow the game open.

Girardi denied his move was a sign he didn't believe the Yankees still had a chance to make the playoffs.

"I'm trying to win the game," Girardi said. "Parker has gotten some big outs for us. It wasn't like I went to

someone who didn't have any experience. To insinuate that I've quit is ridiculous. I never quit."

New York began Saturday four games behind Detroit for the second wild card spot with nine games remaining.

Third baseman Chase Headley (back) and first baseman Mark Teixeira (neck) were not in the starting lineup Saturday.

How Garnett's fire, intensity changed the league

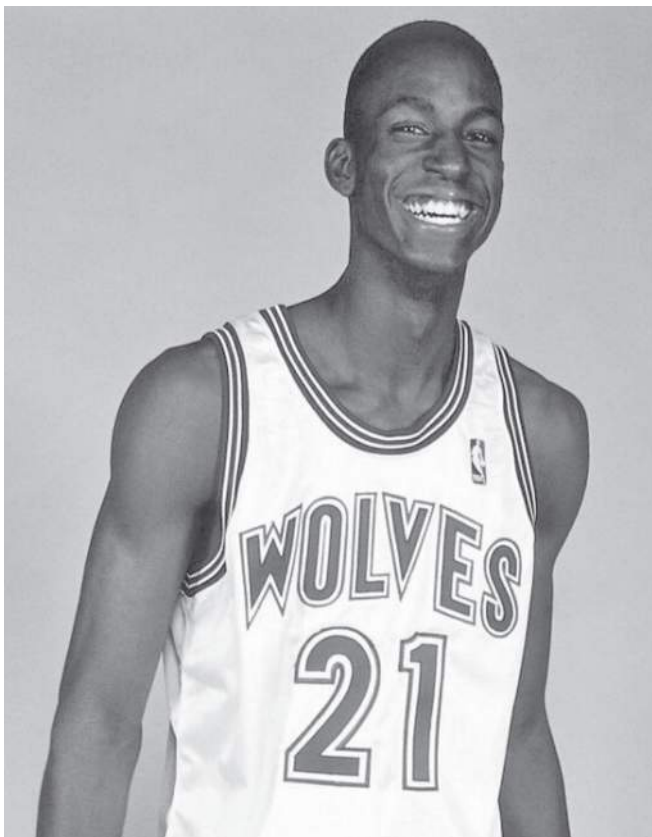


MINNESOTA—In the spring of 1995, Kevin Garnett was something of an unknown. Teams were aware of the spindly, 6-foot-11 phenom, but interest was lukewarm. Late first round, maybe second was the buzz, and only if a general manager, not yet used to the idea of drafting high school talent, was willing to take on a project. In May, Garnett held a workout. He invited representatives from the lottery teams, including two—Kevin McHale and Flip Saunders—from Minnesota.

McHale was there—grudgingly. “I thought it was a waste of time,” McHale recalled recently. The Timberwolves’ first-year GM knew of Garnett, liked him, but didn’t think for a second he would burn the fifth overall pick on him. Then Garnett began to work. The power forward who spent years overwhelming

overmatched opponents with power moves was suddenly dribbling, spinning and shooting like a guard. When it was over, McHale and Saunders piled into a car, looked at each other and expressed the same thing: That’s our guy.

Minnesota drafted Garnett, beginning a decorated 21-year career that ended Friday, with Garnett, 40, negotiating a buyout of the final year of his contract with the Timberwolves and announcing his retirement. We’ve seen the last of Kevin Garnett thumping his chest, sneering at the crowd and spewing trash talk that should come with an NC-17 rating, and it’s time. Past time, really. It should have ended in 2013, in Boston, in the sports-starved city Garnett fed for six seasons. “People don’t know how close KG was [to retiring],” Paul Pierce told The Vertical recently. “He was done.” It was Pierce, knowing the



In this Oct. 5, 1995, file photo, Minnesota Timberwolves rookie Kevin Garnett smiles during media day in Minneapolis. AP

Celtics stars were about to be sold off, desperate to build a title-ready contender elsewhere, who persuaded Garnett to come to Brooklyn, to squeeze more out of his breaking-down body.

Garnett did and toiled for three more seasons, splitting time between Brooklyn and Minnesota, the state where it all began. Age ends things for all, but it was tough to watch a player renowned for his refusal to come off the floor—practice or otherwise—limited to 20 minutes per game, to see one of the great defensive players of this generation yanked late in games for defensive replacements. The fire that burned inside Garnett for 21 seasons still burned, but the body that battled through 1,605 NBA games and the knees that pushed through 55,701 minutes had betrayed him.

The list of transformative stars is a long one, but how many can say they transformed two franchises along the way? Garnett’s legacy in Minnesota won’t include a championship, and we will always wonder what could have been had Stephon Marbury not forced his way off the Timberwolves after two-plus seasons

as KG’s running buddy. But Garnett gave a fledgling franchise relevance and drove it to eight straight playoff appearances—including one trip to the Western Conference finals. Boston, too, was floundering when Garnett was traded there in 2007. His partnership with Pierce and Ray Allen yielded one title and the unflinching belief that there could have been more had injuries not derailed the Celtics along the way.

Garnett has influenced so many. He practiced as he played, because, well, that’s what leaders do. Those who didn’t weren’t likely to last. Take Patrick O’Bryant. In 2008, Boston signed the skilled center, a top-10 draft pick just two years earlier. Early on Garnett pushed him. When O’Bryant didn’t respond, Garnett pushed harder. Still nothing. Four months later, O’Bryant was gone, dumped to Toronto for a second-round pick. Last year, Clippers coach Doc Rivers, who coached Garnett with the Celtics, was asked to compare Garnett’s intensity to Chris Paul’s. They were similar with intensity and preparation, Rivers said, “but Kevin was insane.”

Bosh fails physical, future in doubt

MIAMI (AP)—Chris Bosh’s plan to resume playing is now in jeopardy, after medical examinations performed in recent days convinced the Miami Heat that he is not healthy enough to return to the court.

And Bosh may have provided a clue why.

The Heat announced Friday that they still cannot clear Bosh for a resumption of basketball activities, based on the result of his preseason physical -- a series of tests conducted over the past few days. Their announcement came two days after Bosh revealed in the first chapter of a documentary series about his saga that he had multiple clots in February.

“The Miami Heat regret

that it remains unable to clear Chris to return to basketball activities, and there is no timetable for his return,” the team said Friday.

Late Friday, Bosh released a statement, saying “little setbacks happen.”

“But that doesn’t change my intentions and what I want to accomplish,” Bosh said.

That statement was distributed by LeBron James’ digital platform called Uninterrupted, the same site that Bosh worked with for the documentary. In a video posted there earlier this week, Bosh said a small clot was found in his leg this past February when he was in Toronto for the All-Star break, and that a CT scan later found

the existence of at least one other clot.

Typically, CT scans are administered when clots are expected of having traveled to a lung—a very serious condition called a pulmonary embolism, which Bosh also had in February 2015 in his first bout against the problem that now threatens his career.

“I wouldn’t be a friend if I didn’t express to him my concerns,” former Heat guard Dwyane Wade, now a member of the Chicago Bulls, told The Associated Press. “To me, the biggest thing is Chris has five kids and a wife and a family that depends on him being there. To me, that’s always most important. I told

him, ‘Make sure you focus on that first.’”

The next step for Bosh is unclear. The Heat will hold media day on Monday and their first practice of the post-Wade era in the Bahamas when training camp opens on Tuesday.

Bosh won’t be on the floor for that practice, and likely not anytime soon -- if ever. That means the Heat are for now down to just one player left from the team that played in the NBA Finals just two years ago, that being veteran forward Udonis Haslem.

“Hate to hear that about” Chris Bosh, Oklahoma City’s Enes Kanter tweeted Friday. “I’m sorry brother. Praying for you my man.”

BABAUTA

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waves created by PIC’s flow- rider facility.

In the men’s pro bodyboard, Babauta also got 50-plus points (56.7) to outclass Jae Won Kim (54.5 points) and fellow PIC Clubmate Reymark Castro (48.8 points). Babauta barged into the finals after earning 56.2 points and downing Jin Woo Kim (47.6). John Lewis was also in the group, making it to the playoffs after tallying 30.5 points in the ranking competition last Friday.

Jae Won, on the other hand, topped Ki Taek Kim, 51.6-44.9. Jae Won had 53 points in the elimination to place ahead of Ki Taek (40) and Shuichi Ohara (43.5). Castro was the top finisher in his pool after posting 46.5

points against the 46 of Min Kyu Ryu and 41 of Jae Hyuk Ryu and the former also won the battle for the finals ticket after registering 44.7 points against the 44.5 of Min Ryu.

In the men’s open bodyboard, there was a close fight among Min Kyu Ryou, Hee Chul, and Yong Chung. Min Kyu Ryou recorded 49.1 points in the finals to slip past Chul (48.9) and Sung (48.1). Ohara was the fourth finalist, but missed the podium after getting only 46.2 points from the judges’ scorecards.

In the men’s novice bodyboard, Borja registered 30-plus points in all three rounds to prevail against three other participants.

Borja had 36.5 points in his first ride and 32.7 and 32 in the last two for an average of 33.73 points. Jung Man Seok

finished second with his 27.8 average (30.2, 28.3, and 24.9), while James Welly had 26.06 (22.3, 31.5, and 24.4) to round out the Top 3. Neil Fama posted an average of 23.36 (27.1, 22.4, and 20.6) to rank fourth.

The grommets (under 11 age group) and kids (12 to 17 age group) bodyboard divisions were also played in three rounds with Bae and Jin Woo Ryou topping their respective groups.

Bae won convincingly in the grommets category as his 47 points in Round 1 and 25.2 and 42.5 in Rounds 2 and 3 gave him an average of 38.23 points, about 8 points ahead of Jin Yong Lim. The runner-up finisher averaged 30.26 points after scoring 38.5, 17.7, and 34.6 in Rounds 1, 2, and 3. In the kids division, Jin Woo Ryou averaged 44.1 in three rounds (49, 36.9, and 46.5) to

win over Vladimir Prokopenko, who collected 42.5, 34.2, and 40 in three rounds for an average of 38.90.

In the men’s masters bodyboard, Jin Woo Kim bested two other finalists. Kim’s 48 points lifted him past Yong Sang Park (47.5) and Hee Chul Ryou (46.3). Kim also lorded it over in the ranking riders last Friday after scoring 57 points.

Besides the men’s events, PIC’s Point Break tournament also held a separate competition for female riders and results will be reported in *Saipan Tribune’s* Tuesday edition.

Meanwhile, PIC would like to thank the following sponsors of the weekend contest: IT&E, Bridge Capital, LLC, PIC Saipan, Pacific Trading Co., and Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods.

NMSA

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be offset against Games time per diem levies for each sport should they compete in next year’s event.

“PGAs which do not finally participate in one or more of the sports on the Games final program despite having entered numerical entries at this stage, as submitted in accordance with Protocol 7.7 above in the said sports, shall forfeit their deposit to the OC,” stated in one of the provisions under the Pacific Games Council Charter.

THEA

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Up next for the former New Mexico Military Institute standout was Southeastern Oklahoma’s Aleksandra Reljic and Minor forced a super tiebreaker third set before losing. Reljic won the opening set, 6-3, but missed a sweep when Minor came back in the second in similar scores. In the third, the two players went back and forth before Reljic eked out a 11-9 victory to advance to the finals. The Southeastern Oklahoma player went on to win the finale with another hard-earned win against host Arkansas Tech’s Tamara Bell, 2-6, 6-4, 10-7.

“My semis match was another long and tougher game. It was played for nearly two

“Federations who are going to participate should be prepared to turn in their deposits at our Nov. 3 general membership meeting. In the event that a federation is not able to turn in its deposit on time, the Board may be willing to help (but please note that this is only my suggestion, and that the Board has not yet considered this issue),” White said.

The Mini Games will be held from Dec. 2 to 14 and other sports included on the calendar of events are soccer, archery, cricket, boxing, judo, karate, netball, and table tennis.

hours and I lost a good fight,” Minor said.

After her eventful debut, the 21-year-old CNMI player said she expects more challenges in her rookie season with the HSU Reddies.

“There will be more and tougher competitions ahead of me and I am ready to face them through the help of my coaches and teammates. It feels different playing on a new team, but we have a very good squad and coaches,” the Saipan Southern High School graduate said.

The Reddies are under head coach Brenda Joiner and will next compete in the ITA Regionals on Oct. 1 and 2. University of Central Oklahoma will host next weekend’s tournament in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Prostate and Childhood Cancer Awareness Run/Bike for a Cause



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Department of Fire and Emergency Management Service cadets make their turn in front of the JP Centre Building in Beach Road, Garapan to head back to the start/finish line of the last Saturday's Prostate and Childhood Cancer Awareness Run/Bike for a Cause at the American Memorial Park.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Mt. Carmel School student gets a cup of water from one of the volunteers stationed at the turnaround point of the 5K run.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The second lead pack cruises along Beach Road during the 40K bike race from AMP to Pacific Islands Club and back.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Runners keep their pace on their way to the finish line.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Three bikers gesture as they near completion of the race.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CCA program director Juan L. Babauta celebrates at the finish line.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Aldrin Sta. Ana poses for a photo before crossing the finish line.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Bikers are all smiles as they head to the finish line.



Eagles go from bottom to top in one statistic

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Nationals get third NL East title in 5 years

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28 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Thea reaches semis in NCAA debut



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Thea Minor advanced to the semifinals in her NCAA debut with the Henderson State University last weekend.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI top junior player Thea Minor made it to the semifinals of her NCAA Division 2 debut.

Minor, who plays for the Henderson State University, competed in Flight 2 singles event in the 2016 Great American Conference Individual Championships held over the weekend at the Russelleville High School in Arkansas and was tested in two closely fought matches.

She was pitted first against Southern Nazarene's Noelia Gomez and won the more than two-hour match, 7-6 (8), 6-1, to advance to the semifinals of the main bracket.

"Having that first win felt really good. It was a tough one, but every point was worth fighting for. The tiebreak was long and my opponent had a couple of set points, but I kept fighting," Minor said in a message sent to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

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NMSA reminds federations of Mini Games deadline

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Local sports federations are reminded to inform Northern Marianas Sports Association if they intend to send athletes to Vanuatu for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games.

"As has been previously announced, numerical entries are due in early December. If your federation intends to compete in the Games, I need to have your information by our Nov. 3 general membership meeting. I will be away during the last half of November, and there-

fore I want to turn in the completed form before I leave. Even if you're not going to participate, please let me know," NMSA president Michael

White said in an email circulated among the group's member federations.

I hope to see entries from all of our active federations whose sports are on the program: athletics, beach volleyball, football, golf, and tennis. I am also hopeful that weightlifting and maybe even Rugby 7s will



White

get their acts together in time to be included," he added.

White also reminded NMSA member-groups of the fines that will be imposed to NMSA (which will then charge the penalties to the federation) should they decide not to honor their commitment to the Mini Games.

NMSA-member groups must pay a deposit of \$1,000 per men's and women's sport to the Organizing Committee (Vanuatu) and these could

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Babauta, 5 others win in Point Break tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club Saipan's very own Ray Babauta led the winners list of the 10th Annual Point Break Invitational Competition held over the weekend at the hotel's flowrider facility.

Babauta ruled the men's flowboard and men's pro bodyboard events, while other division champions were Carter Borja, Daniel Bae, Jin Woo Ryou, Min Kyu, and Jin Woo Kim.

The PIC Clubmate was seeded first after last Friday's ranking and earned 51.8 points in the first round



of the playoffs to advance to the finals and beat Jin Woo Kim (42 points). In the finale, Babauta was pitted against Christo Mojar and Jae Won with the former still placing first after collecting 51.7 points. Won, who moved into the finals after defeating three other riders in his group dropped to second with his 48.4 points, while Mojar settled for third after tallying 45.2 points. Participants are given points based on the moves and techniques they showed while riding the flowboard (with time limit) and negotiating the artificial

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jin Woo Ryou shows some of his moves during Round 2 of the kids bodyboard event in last Saturday's 10th Annual Point Break Invitational Competition held at PIC Saipan's flowrider facility.